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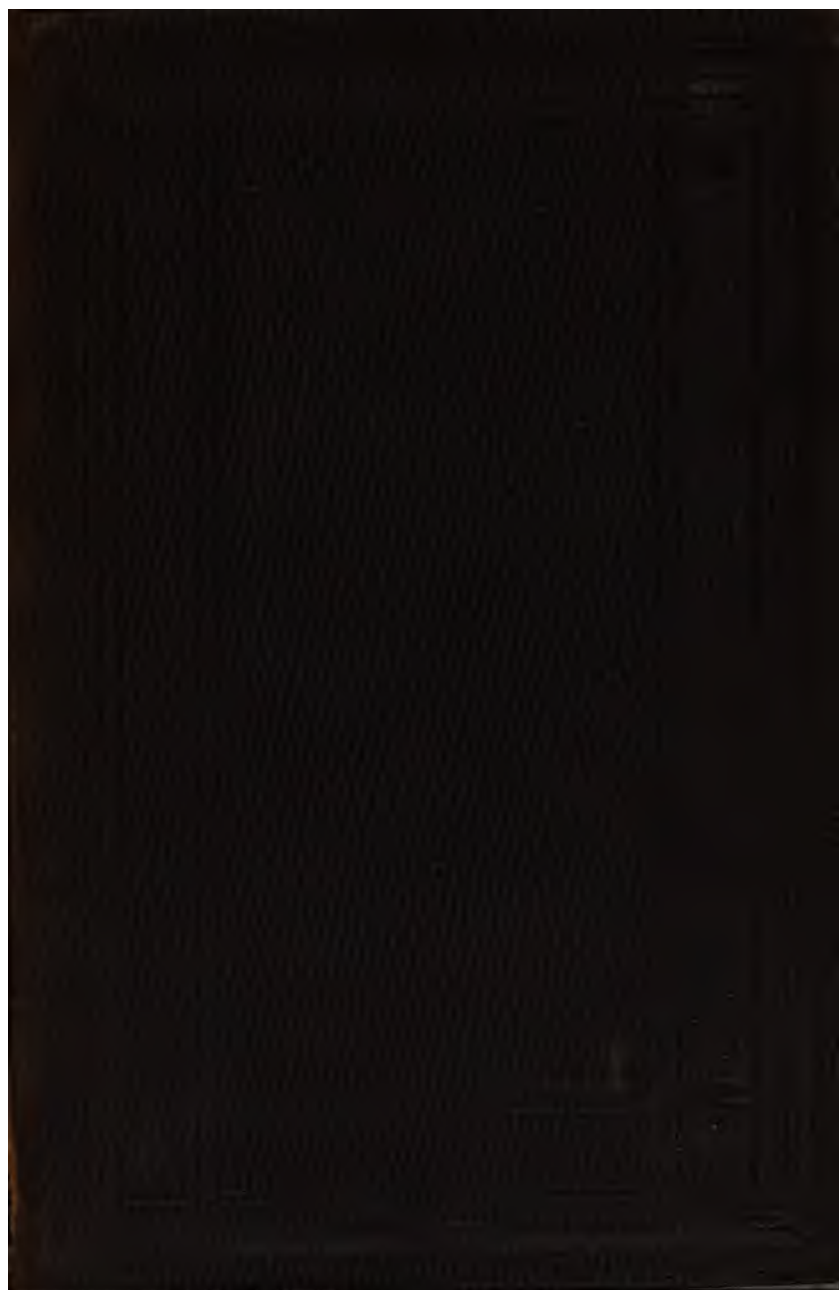
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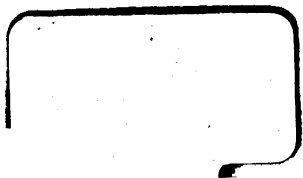
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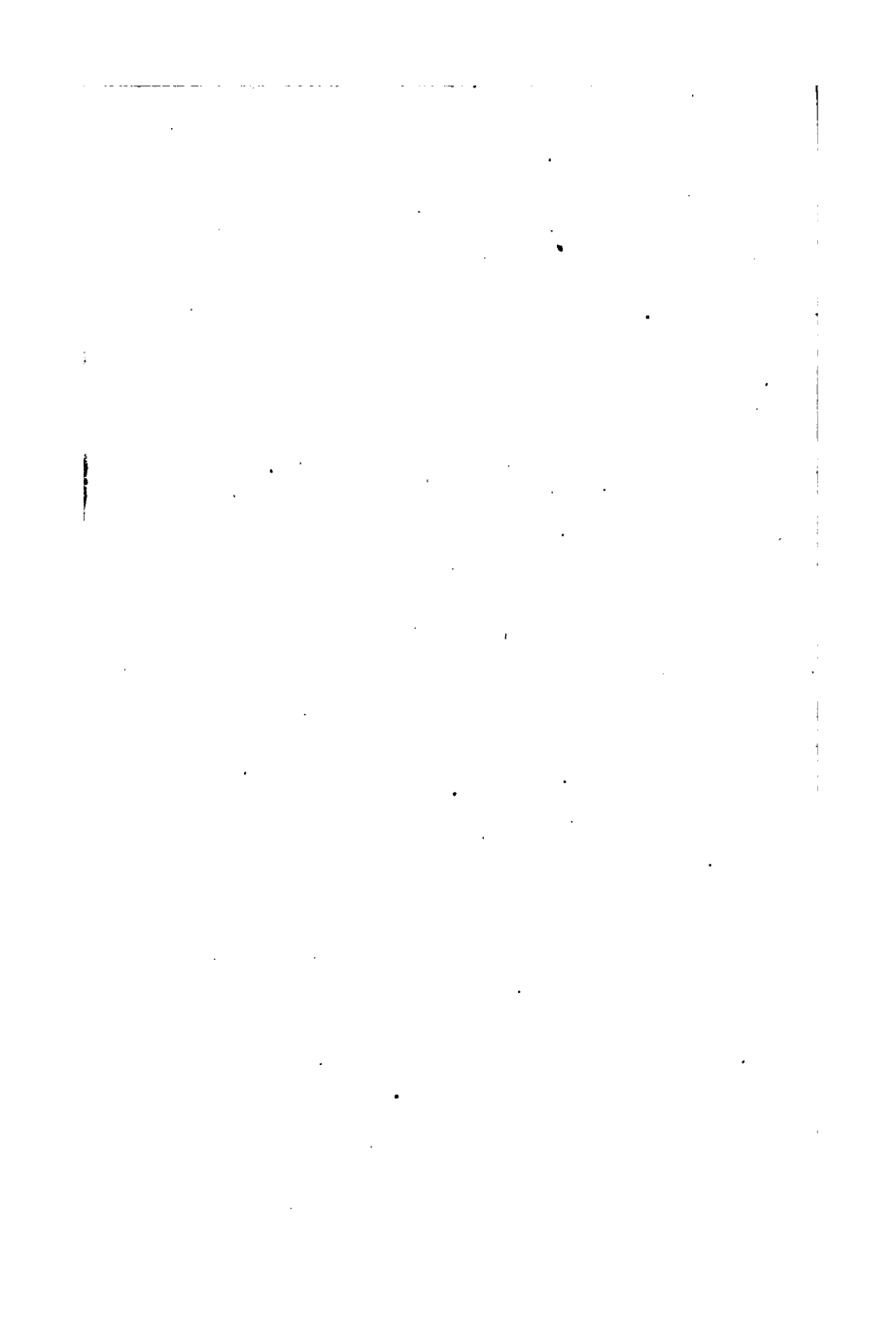




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THE
CURE OF SOULS.

BY THE
REV. G. ARDEN, M.A.,
RECTOR OF WINTERBORNE-CAME;
DOMESTIC CHAPLAIN TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DEVON;
AUTHOR OF "BREVVIATES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE," ETC.

"A word spoken in due season, how good is it."
"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

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TO THE RIGHT REVEREND
WALTER KERR, LORD BISHOP OF SALISBURY,
THE FATHER OF HIS DIOCESE,
FROM HIS
AFFECTIONATE SON IN THE FAITH,
THE COMPILER.

NOTICE.

THIS little volume is intended as a companion to the "Breviates from Holy Scripture, arranged for use by the Bed of Sickness ;" and may, it is hoped, be found useful to the Parish Priest in visiting and ministering to the sick members of his flock. The first part of each section contains suggestions intended to open the way to free and unreserved communication between the sick man and his spiritual adviser. In the devotional parts, due regard has been paid to the weakness which generally accompanies ill-health ; and the Penitential Psalms, with a few Prayers and Thanksgivings for special occasions, have been added at the end.

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THE PRIEST'S PRIVATE PRAYER.

O BLESSED Jesus, Thou great Lover of souls, who hast chosen me, Thine unworthy servant, to be a minister of Thy Church; grant that in this my ministry I may have a single eye to Thy glory, and the comfort and benefit of this sick person. Grant also that nothing of Thy grace may be lost to *him* by my unworthiness, but let Thy Spirit speak by me, and give me prudence and charity, wisdom and diligence, good observation and apt discourse, that I may glorify Thy Name, and set forward the salvation of this my *brother*; through Thy mercies, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever One God, world without end.
Amen.

THE CURE OF SOULS.

SECTION I.

THE ORDER FOR THE VISITATION OF THE SICK.

¶ *When any person is sick, notice shall be given thereof to the Minister of the Parish, who, coming into the sick person's house, shall say,*

PEACE be to this house, and to all that dwell in it.

¶ *When he cometh into the sick man's presence he shall say, kneeling down,*

REMEMBER not, Lord, our iniquities, nor the iniquities of our forefathers: Spare us, good Lord, spare Thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.

Answer. Spare us, good Lord.

¶ *Then shall the minister say,*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father, Which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Min. O Lord, save Thy servant;

Ans. Which putteth *his* trust in Thee.

Min. Send *him* help from Thy holy place;

Ans. And evermore mightily defend *him*.

Min. Let the enemy have no advantage of *him*;

Ans. Nor the wicked approach to hurt *him*.

Min. Be unto *him*, O Lord, a strong tower,

Ans. From the face of *his* enemy.

Min. O Lord, hear our prayers.

Ans. And let our cry come unto Thee.

Minister.

O LORD, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve this Thy servant. Look upon *him* with the eyes of Thy mercy, give *him* comfort and sure confidence in Thee, defend *him* from the danger of the enemy, and keep *him* in perpetual peace and safety; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

HEAR us, Almighty and most merciful God and Saviour; extend Thy accustomed goodness to this Thy servant who is grieved with sickness. Sanctify, we beseech Thee, this Thy fatherly correction to *him*; that the sense of *his* weakness may add strength to *his* faith, and seriousness to *his* repentance: That, if it shall be Thy good pleasure to restore *him* to *his* former health, *he* may lead the residue of *his* life in Thy fear, and to Thy glory: or else, give *him* grace so to take Thy visitation, that, after this painful life ended, *he* may dwell with Thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Minister exhort the sick person after this form, or other like.*

DEARLY beloved, know this, that Almighty God is the Lord of life and death, and

of all things to them pertaining, as youth, strength, health, age, weakness, and sickness. Wherefore, whatsoever your sickness is, know you certainly, that it is God's visitation. And for what cause soever this sickness is sent unto you; whether it be to try your patience for the example of others, and that your faith may be found in the day of the Lord laudable, glorious, and honourable, to the increase of glory and endless felicity; or else it be sent unto you to correct and amend in you whatsoever doth offend the eyes of your heavenly Father; know you certainly, that if you truly repent you of your sins, and bear your sickness patiently, trusting in God's mercy, for His dear Son Jesus Christ's sake, and render unto Him humble thanks for His fatherly visitation, submitting yourself wholly unto His will, it shall turn to your profit, and help you forward in the right way that leadeth unto everlasting life.

¶ *If the person visited be very sick, then the Curate may end his exhortation in this place, or else proceed.*

TAKE, therefore, in good part the chastisement of the Lord: For (as Saint Paul

saith in the twelfth Chapter to the Hebrews) whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh, which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness. These words, good *brother*, are written in holy Scripture for our comfort and instruction; that we should patiently, and with thanksgiving, bear our heavenly Father's correction, whensoever by any manner of adversity it shall please His gracious goodness to visit us. And there should be no greater comfort to Christian persons, than to be made like unto Christ, by suffering patiently adversities, troubles, and sicknesses. For He Himself went not up to joy, but first He suffered pain; He entered not into His glory before He was crucified.

So truly our way to eternal joy is to suffer here with Christ; and our door to enter into eternal life is gladly to die with Christ; that we may rise again from death, and dwell with Him in everlasting life. Now therefore, taking your sickness, which is thus profitable for you, patiently, I exhort you, in the Name of God, to remember the profession which you made unto God in your Baptism. And forasmuch as after this life there is an account to be given unto the righteous Judge, by whom all must be judged, without respect of persons, I require you to examine yourself and your estate, both toward God and man; so that, accusing and condemning yourself for your own faults, you may find mercy at our heavenly Father's hand for Christ's sake, and not be accused and condemned in that fearful judgment. Therefore I shall rehearse to you the Articles of our Faith, that you may know whether you do believe as a Christian man should, or no.

¶ *Here the Minister shall rehearse the Articles of the Faith, saying thus,*

DOST thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?
And in Jesus Christ His only-begotten Son

our Lord? And that He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; that He went down into hell, and also did rise again the third day; that He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholick Church; the Communion of Saints; the Remission of sins; the Resurrection of the flesh; and everlasting life after death?

¶ *The sick person shall answer,*

All this I stedfastly believe.

¶ *Then shall the Minister examine whether he repent him truly of his sins, and be in charity with all the world; exhorting him to forgive, from the bottom of his heart, all persons that have offended him; and if he hath offended any other, to ask them forgiveness; and where he hath done injury or wrong to any man, that he make amends to the uttermost of his power. And if he hath not before disposed of his goods, let him then be admonished to make his Will, and to declare his Debts, what he oweth, and what is owing unto*

him; for the better discharging of his conscience, and the quietness of his Executors. But men should often be put in remembrance to take order for the settling of their temporal estates, whilst they are in health.

¶ *These words before rehearsed may be said before the Minister begin his Prayer, as he shall see cause.*

¶ *The Minister should not omit earnestly to move such sick persons as are of ability to be liberal to the poor.*

¶ *Here shall the sick person be moved to make a special Confession of his sins, if he feel his conscience troubled with any weighty matter. After which Confession, the Priest shall absolve him (if he humbly and heartily desire it) after this sort.*

OUR Lord Jesus Christ, who hath left power to His Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in Him, of His great mercy forgive thee thine offences: And by His authority committed to me, I absolve thee from all thy sins, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ *And then the Priest shall say the Collect following.*

Let us pray.

MOST merciful God, who, according to the multitude of Thy mercies, dost so put away the sins of those who truly repent, that

Thou rememberest them no more ; Open Thine eye of mercy upon this Thy servant, who most earnestly desireth pardon and forgiveness. Renew in *him*, most loving Father, whatsoever hath been decayed by the fraud and malice of the devil, or by *his* own carnal will and frailness ; preserve and continue this sick member in the unity of the Church ; consider *his* contrition, accept *his* tears, assuage *his* pain, as shall seem to Thee most expedient for *him*. And forasmuch as *he* putteth *his* full trust only in Thy mercy, impute not unto *him* *his* former sins, but strengthen *him* with Thy blessed Spirit ; and, when Thou art pleased to take *him* hence, take *him* unto Thy favour, through the merits of Thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Minister say this Psalm.*

In te Domine speravi. Psalm lxxi.

IN Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust ; let me never be put to confusion : but rid me, and deliver me in Thy righteousness ; incline Thine ear unto me, and save me.

Be Thou my strong hold, whereunto I may alway resort : 'Thou hast promised to help me ;

for Thou art my house of defence and my castle.

Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the ungodly : out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

For Thou, O Lord God, art the thing that I long for : Thou art my hope, even from my youth.

Through Thee have I been holden up ever since I was born : Thou art He that took me out of my mother's womb ; my praise shall always be of Thee.

I am become as it were a monster unto many : but my sure trust is in Thee.

O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise : that I may sing of Thy glory and honour all the day long.

Cast me not away in the time of age : forsake me not when my strength faileth me.

For mine enemies speak against me, and they that lay wait for my soul take their counsel together, saying : God hath forsaken him, persecute him, and take him ; for there is none to deliver him.

Go not far from me, O God : my God, haste Thee to help me.

Let them be confounded and perish that are against my soul : let them be covered with shame and dishonour that seek to do me evil.

As for me, I will patiently abide alway : and will praise Thee more and more.

My mouth shall daily speak of Thy righteousness and salvation : for I know no end thereof.

I will go forth in the strength of the Lord God : and will make mention of Thy righteousness only.

Thou, O God, hast taught me from my youth up until now : therefore will I tell of Thy wondrous works.

Forsake me not, O God, in mine old age, when I am gray-headed : until I have shewed Thy strength unto this generation, and Thy power to all them that are yet for to come.

Thy righteousness, O God, is very high, and great things are they that Thou hast done : O God, who is like unto Thee ?

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

¶ *Adding this.*

O SAVIOUR of the world, who by Thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us, Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

¶ *And after that shall say,*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. Amen.

Let them be ~~against me~~ at end;
are against me ~~and will make me~~ *evil*.
with ~~strength~~ *the aid of*
me *evil*.

As for me, I will ~~praise Thee~~ that flee
and will praise Thee ~~and will praise Thee~~ that be-
We call

My mouth shall ~~praise Thee~~ coming to
eousness and ~~salvation~~ mission of
thereof.

I will go forth ~~and will~~ Receive
God : and will ~~make me~~ by Thy
eousness only. ~~and ye shall~~

Thou, O God, ~~have now unto~~ *Thou, O God, have now unto*
young up ~~and will~~ *young up* and ; open the
Thy wonderful ~~and will~~ *Thy wonderful*

Forsake ~~and will~~ at *this Infant*
when I ~~am~~ *when I am* ~~and will~~ *prediction of Thy*
Thy strength ~~and will~~ *come to the eter-*
power ~~and will~~ *hast promised by*

Thy

The Priest say,
God, grant that the old
Child may be so buried,
may be raised in him.

all carnal ~~and will~~ *die in*

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who of Thy great mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark from perishing by water; and also didst safely lead the children of Israel Thy people through the red Sea, figuring thereby Thy holy Baptism; and by the Baptism of Thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ, in the river Jordan, didst sanctify Water to the mystical washing away of sin; We beseech Thee, for Thine infinite mercies, that Thou wilt mercifully look upon *this Child*; wash *him* and sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost; that *he*, being delivered from Thy wrath, may be received into the ark of Christ's Church; and being stedfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally *he* may come to the land of everlasting life,

there to reign with Thee world without end ;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and immortal God, the aid of
all that need, the helper of all that flee
to Thee for succour, the life of them that be-
lieve, and the resurrection of the dead ; We call
upon Thee for *this Infant*, that *he*, coming to
Thy holy Baptism, may receive remission of
his sins by spiritual regeneration. Receive
him, O Lord, as Thou hast promised by Thy
well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall
have ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it
shall be opened unto you : So give now unto
us that ask ; let us that seek find ; open the
gate unto us that knock ; that *this Infant*
may enjoy the everlasting benediction of Thy
heavenly washing, and may come to the eter-
nal kingdom which Thou hast promised by
Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

O MERCIFUL God, grant that the old
Adam in *this Child* may be so buried,
that the new man may be raised up in *him*.
Amen.

Grant that all carnal affections may die in

him, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. *Amen*.

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have the victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen*.

Grant that whosoever is dedicated to Thee by our office and ministry may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through Thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. *Amen*.

ALMIGHTY, everliving God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of His most precious side both water and blood; and gave commandment to His disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; Regard, we beseech Thee, the supplications of Thy congregation; sanctify this Water to the mystical washing away of sin; and grant that *this Child*, now to be baptized therein, may receive the fulness of Thy grace, and ever remain in the number of Thy faithful and elect children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

And then, the Child being named by some one that is present, the Minister shall pour Water upon it, saying these words :

N I baptize thee in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ *Then, all kneeling down, the Minister shall give thanks unto God, and say,*

WE yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased Thee to regenerate *this Infant* with Thy Holy Spirit, to receive *him* for Thine own *Child* by adoption, and to incorporate *him* into Thy holy Church. And humbly we beseech Thee to grant, that as *he is* now made *partaker* of the death of Thy Son, so *he* may be also of His resurrection ; and that finally, with the residue of Thy Saints, *he* may inherit Thine everlasting kingdom ; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SECTION III.

USES OF SICKNESS.

SICKNESS is God's visitation.

You are still His child, though an undutiful one; and He your heavenly Father, whether He smile or frown.

You have been a wandering sheep, but He has not left you to perish in the wilderness.

Those whom He loves He chastens, punishing them in this world, that He may be able to spare them hereafter.

If He had not remembered mercy He might have cut you off in a moment, in the midst of your sins.

Sickness is the soul's medicine,—bitter, but wholesome. Take it patiently, and even thankfully, at God's hand.

We should never choose affliction for ourselves; yet it is good for us to be afflicted.

We forget God in the days of health and

strength ; but He does not forget us, for His dear Son's sake.

We are apt to be slothful in prayer, but sickness teaches us that our help is in God only.

God takes away earthly comforts, to wean our affections from this world, and to teach us that this is not our home.

God sends us pain to humble us, and to convince us of sin, the bitter root of all suffering.

If you are not the better for sickness, you will be the worse ; if you do not draw nearer to Christ, you will fall away further from Him.

Resign at once your own will to that of your Heavenly Father, to live or die, as it shall please Him.

Set your house in order, that earthly cares may not draw off your attention from the care of your soul.

Sickness has its own proper duties ; gird up your loins for the work.

It is a school of gentleness, patience, cheerfulness, freedom from murmuring, unselfishness, thankfulness for kindnesses, whether small or great.

Our whole life is a preparation for eternity, and sickness warns you not to delay, for the night cometh, when no man can work.

It calls on you to examine yourself, whether you are sound in the faith; and to perfect your repentance, your hope, your love to God and man.

If you have hitherto neglected it, now at length prepare yourself to fulfil the dying command of Jesus.

If you have been a constant communicant, you will thankfully seek in this hour of weakness to have your soul strengthened and refreshed by the Body and Blood of Christ.

Think how short a time may remain to you to perfect holiness in the fear of God; yet without holiness no man shall see the Lord.

Prayers.

“**I** WILL arise and go to my Father, and will say unto Him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before Thee, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son.”

Let us humbly confess our sins before Almighty God.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, We have erred, and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare Thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore Thou them that are penitent; According to Thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of Thy holy Name. *Amen.*

O GOD, whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive, receive our humble petitions; and though we be tied and bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of Thy great mercy loose us; for the honour of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father &c. *Amen.*

O MERCIFUL Father, we humbly thank Thee for sometimes calling us off from our common employments, and giving us time to consider our ways, and to turn to Thee with all our hearts. Wean our affections from earthly things, that we may fix them upon the joys which are at Thy right hand for evermore. Look down, O Lord, in pity upon this Thy servant, and give *him* grace to profit by this precious opportunity of seeking Thy face. It is of Thy mercy that *he* is still able to call upon Thee; teach *him* to think, under this lighter visitation, whether *he* is prepared for death and judgment. Teach *him* to call *his* ways to remembrance, and so to judge *himself* now, that *he* may receive mercy without judgment at the great day. Teach *him* to seek Thy forgiveness for all *his* sins through Jesus Christ, and help *him* by Thy Holy Spirit to cast out of *his* heart all evil things, and to learn and practise all that is good. Restore

him, if it be Thy holy will, to *his* former health, and sanctify this bodily sickness to the good of *his* soul ; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Or, when sickness is increasing.

O HEAVENLY Father, hear our prayer on behalf of this Thy servant, and heal *his* sickness, that *he* may praise Thy holy Name. But if Thou art pleased that it should grow upon *him*, give *him* grace to submit willingly to Thine afflicting hand, for Thou wilt not lay upon *him* more than *he* is able to bear. We know, O Lord, that Thou visitest us with sickness to humble us and to prove us, that Thou mayest do us good at our latter end. Lord, create in this Thy servant a hearty sorrow for all *his* sins past, a stedfast faith in Thee, and a sincere purpose of amendment for the time to come. Bless the means used for *his* recovery, but deliver *him* from all impatience, and give *him* an entire resignation to Thy holy will. Call us not hence, O Lord, till Thou hast fitted us for the joys above, and grant that we may find favour in Thy sight, and a place at the right hand of Jesus Christ,

when He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. Hear us, O Lord, for the sake and through the merits of the same Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION IV.

FAITH.

SICKNESS calls upon you first of all to examine yourself whether you be in the faith; for without faith it is impossible to please God.

Do you then with your heart believe, and with your mouth confess, all the Articles of the Christian faith, once for all delivered to the saints?

Are you heartily thankful that, by the mercy of God, you were born in this faith, and do you purpose to live and die in it?

Is there any doubt or scruple in your mind concerning any Article of the faith, which you would wish to have cleared up?

Do you stedfastly believe all that God has been pleased to reveal concerning Himself in Holy Scripture?

Do you believe that the blessed Trinity,

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, are One God in Three Persons?

Do you believe in God the Father, as the Almighty Creator of all things, visible and invisible; the Father of His only-begotten Son from all eternity, and the Father of yourself and of all Christians by adoption?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal and only-begotten Son of God, as having redeemed yourself and all mankind from sin and from everlasting death?

Do you believe, therefore, the great mystery of godliness; that for us men, and for our salvation, Jesus Christ was manifest in the flesh, being miraculously conceived by the Holy Ghost, and born of the Blessed Virgin Mary?

Do you believe that He was crucified, and died upon the cross, to be a full, perfect, and sufficient Sacrifice for your sins, and for the sins of the whole world?

Do you believe that His body was buried, and that His soul descended into the place of departed spirits, that He might teach us not to fear the grave, and that He might overcome death for us?

Do you believe that He rose again the third day, that He might be the first-fruits of them that slept?

Do you believe that in His Ascension He is gone before to prepare a place for us?

Do you believe that in His sitting at the right hand of God He is our Advocate and Intercessor?

Do you believe that He shall come again at the end of the world to render to every man according to his works?

Do you believe in God the Holy Ghost, as the Divine Regenerator, Renewer, and Sanctifier of yourself, and of all the elect people of God?

Do you believe that God has prepared for you, and for all true Christians, in His holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and a life of everlasting glory?

Have you been afraid or ashamed to confess your faith before men?

Remember that a dead faith will profit you nothing: it is only a living faith—a faith that worketh by love, a faith that purifieth the heart—which will avail to the saving of your soul.

Have you then tried to frame your whole life in accordance with the faith which you profess?

Do you confess that you have been an unprofitable servant, and do you put your whole trust in the merits of Jesus Christ for pardon and salvation?

May Almighty God strengthen and increase your faith, that you may both live and die in this belief, and in the peace and communion of His Church.

Prayers.

“**L**ORD, I believe, help Thou mine unbelief.”

“Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him.”

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O Lord, save this Thy servant.

Who putteth *his* trust in Thee.

Send *him* help from Thy holy place.

And evermore mightily defend *him*.

O remember not the sins and offences of *his* youth.

But according to Thy mercy think Thou upon *him*, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

Look upon *his* adversity and misery.

And forgive *him* all *his* sin.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

And let our cry come unto Thee.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hast given unto us Thy servants grace by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity ; We beseech Thee that Thou wouldest keep us stedfast in this faith, and evermore defend us from all adversities, who livest and reignest, One God, world without end. *Amen.*

O BLESSED Lord, whom without faith it is impossible to please, let Thy Holy Spirit implant in this Thy servant such a faith as may be pleasing in Thy sight, even the faith which worketh by love. Let *him* not rest in a dead, unfruitful faith, but grant that it may be such as will shew itself by *his* works, enabling *him* to overcome the world, and to

conform *himself* to the image of Christ ; so that *he* may at last receive the end of *his* faith, even the salvation of *his* soul ; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY God, the never-failing Saviour of them that truly believe ; Hear us who seek Thy help on behalf of this Thy servant, now grieved with sickness ; and so restore *his* health and strength, that *he* may offer up *his* thanks to Thee in the midst of Thy Church ; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

WE yield Thee humble thanks, O heavenly Father, that Thou hast vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of Thy grace, and faith in Thee ; Increase this knowledge, and confirm this faith in us evermore. Give Thy Holy Spirit to this Thy servant, that having been born again, and made an heir of everlasting salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, *he* may continue Thy servant, and attain Thy promises ; through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee,

in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, everlastingly. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven, given to man, in whom and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

True repentance leads us not only to hate and loathe our sins, but to turn away from them, and amend our lives.

This you can do in some measure even on a bed of sickness.

Remember that all your sins are written in God's book, nor will they be blotted out, except you repent of them.

Think, then, of the solemn vōw made for you at your baptism, and renewed by yourself at Confirmation, and at the Holy Communion.

Have you renounced and abhorred the devil and all his works, as pride, lying, malice, hatred, envy, slander, backbiting, and tempting others to sin?

Have you sought after the pomps and vanities of the world, by over-costly apparel, vain boasting, scornfulness towards others, craving for the honour that cometh of man, and being a lover of pleasure more than of God?

Have you followed the sinful lusts of the flesh, viz. "adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murder, drunkenness, revellings, and such-like?"

Is there any particular sin which lies heavy upon your conscience, and for which you desire further comfort and counsel, and the absolution which Jesus Christ has empowered His ministers to pronounce ?

Do you pray God to enlighten your mind as to any sins which you may have forgotten, that you may repent of them also ?

Prayers.

“**T**HE sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit :
a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt
Thou not despise.”

“ If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Let us humbly confess our sins before Almighty God.

O MOST mighty God, and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon all men, and hatest nothing that Thou hast made ; who wouldest not the death of a sinner, but that he should rather turn from his sin, and be saved ; mercifully forgive us our trespasses ; receive and

comfort us, who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins. Thy property is always to have mercy : to Thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare us, therefore, good Lord, spare Thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed ; enter not into judgment with Thy servants, who are vile earth, and miserable sinners ; but so turn Thine anger from us, who meekly acknowledge our vileness, and truly repent us of our faults, and so make haste to help us in this world, that we may ever live with Thee in the world to come ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O LORD, we beseech Thee, mercifully hear our prayers, and spare all those who confess their sins unto Thee ; that they, whose consciences by sin are accused, by Thy merciful pardon may be absolved ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O MERCIFUL Father, who dost not willingly afflict the children of men ; correct, we pray Thee, this Thy servant with judgment, not in Thine anger, lest Thou bring *him* to nothing. Judge *him*, good Lord, not according as *his* sins have deserved, but as *his* weakness can bear, and according to Thy compassion, which in the midst of judgment remembereth mercy ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, who for our many and grievous sins mightest most justly have cut us off in the midst of our days, but in the multitude of Thy mercies hast hitherto spared us ; accept, we beseech Thee, our unfeigned sorrow for our past transgressions, and grant that we may never so presume of Thy mercy as to despise the riches of thy goodness, but let Thy forbearance and long-suffering lead us to amend our sinful lives, and by Thy grace to continue Thy faithful servants unto the end ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in

Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION VI.

HOPE.

THE Lord delighteth in mercy, and willeth not the death of a sinner, but that all should come to repentance.

And through repentance and faith He has opened to us a door of hope, by the precious death and glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ.

While God spares our life there is hope that even the greatest sinner may turn to Him, and be forgiven ; but the pains of hell are hopeless.

When the multitude of your sins comes into your mind, grieve for them, but by no means despair, for God's mercies are over all His works.

Only delay not, but fly at once for refuge to lay hold on the hope set before you in Jesus Christ.

St. Paul tells us that the reason why God

caused His Word to be written was, "that we through patience, and comfort of the Scriptures, might have hope."

None have so much need of hope as the sick, but the only hope that will not disappoint us, and make us ashamed, is "the hope of the Gospel."

Seek, then, unto the Lord in your sickness, and He will make you to abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.

The hope of the Christian is an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, for it is founded on the word of Christ, who hath promised, "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out."

But your hope is vain, unless it leads you to "purify yourself, even as Christ is pure;" for "the hypocrite's hope shall perish."

God forbid that you should cherish a false hope of His mercy, while you continue in any known and wilful sin.

If your hope is in Christ, you will look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; not at your present trials and sorrows, but at the joy that is set before you.

Let your body, worn with suffering, teach you to hope for the time when "He shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body."

Look forward in hope to the time when "God shall wipe away all tears from your eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things shall have passed away."

The more your soul increases in holiness, and the more you are conformed to the image of Christ, the brighter will your hope become; till from "the full assurance of hope" in this world, you pass to its glorious fulfilment in the next, for "the righteous hath hope in his death."

Prayers.

"GIRD up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Let us pray.

REMEMBER not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take Thou vengeance of our sins: spare us,

good Lord, spare Thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O Lord, save this Thy servant.

Which putteth *his* hope in Thee.

Send *him* help from Thy holy place.

And evermore mightily defend *him*.

O Lord, comfort *him* as he lieth sick upon *his* bed.

And make Thou all *his* bed in *his* sickness.

Lord, hear our prayers.

And let our cry come unto Thee.

O LORD, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve this Thy servant. Look upon *him* with the eyes of Thy mercy, give *him* comfort and sure confidence in Thee, defend *him* from the danger of the enemy, and keep *him* in perpetual peace and safety; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity,

and that we may obtain that which Thou dost promise, make us to love that which Thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O THOU in whom our fathers hoped, and Thou didst deliver them, awaken in the heart of this Thy servant, by the power of the Holy Ghost, such a lively hope of future glory, as may enable *him* to cleanse *himself* from all filthiness of flesh and spirit, and to perfect holiness in the fear of Thee. Let *him* so fix *his* hope upon Thee, the Rock of ages, that nothing may have power to shake it, but that it may be to *him* an anchor of the soul, by which he may safely outride all the waves and storms of this troublesome world; and do Thou at length bring him in peace unto the haven where he would be; for the sake and through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence, and make thee

know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION VII.

CHARITY.—LOVE TO GOD.

WHEN we have passed from death unto judgment, and stand before Him who searcheth the heart, we shall have to answer for ourselves with regard to the first and great commandment, viz. the love of God.

God alone deserves our highest love, for He alone is perfect and unchangeable: but He will not accept a divided heart.

Have you then loved the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your mind; and with all your soul, and with all your strength?

Under this head are included all the duties which we owe to God, for "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments."

Has, then, your love to God led you to fear His displeasure above all things; to trust in

His goodness ; to submit patiently to His will ; to be thankful for all His mercies ?

Has your love to God kept you from despising His chastening, and growing weary of His correction ?

Has your love to God made you constant and diligent in prayer to Him in the Church, in your family, and in private ?

Has your love to God led you to worship Him in spirit and in truth, with all lowliness and humility of body and soul ?

Has your love to God made you fearful of giving to any other the honour due to Him alone ; or of setting up idols in your heart—as covetousness, or love of pleasure ?

Has your love to God made you fearful of taking His holy Name in vain ?

Has your love to God made you reverence the Lord's Day, and keep it holy, spending it in works of piety and charity ?

Has your love to God made you delight in studying His holy Word, that you may know His will ?

Have you shewn your love to your Saviour Jesus Christ by often receiving the Holy Communion of His Body and Blood ?

Has your love to God made you strive to the utmost of your power to do all things, even the common actions of life, to His glory?

Does your love to God so govern your affections, that you love what He loves, and hate what He hates?

Does your love to God make you watch and pray, that you may be ready to meet your Lord at His appearing?

Does your love to God make you strive to be conformed to His image here; and long for a more full and perfect enjoyment of Him in heaven?

If you truly love God, He will make *all things* work together for your good.

Prayers.

“GOD is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.”

Let us pray.

O GOD, who hast prepared for them that love Thee such good things as pass man's understanding; pour into our hearts such love toward Thee, that we, loving Thee above all things, may obtain Thy promises, which ex-

ceed all that we can desire ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O LORD, we beseech Thee, give this Thy servant such a strong sense of Thy fatherly love to *him*, in this *his* sickness, as may kindle in *his* heart the fire of love to Thee again, and enable *him* to put *his* trust in Thee, and to resign both body and soul to Thy wise disposal. Help *him* in remembrance of Thy past loving-kindness, so to trust in Thy goodness, and so meekly to bear what Thou seest fit to lay upon *him*, that *his* sufferings may turn to *his* everlasting salvation ; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

O GOD of all goodness, who art worthy of greater love than we can offer, give us grace to be heartily ashamed and sorry for having loved Thee so little in time past. Let Thy Holy Spirit now fill our souls with such

love to Thee as may cast out all fear and sloth, so that nothing may seem too hard for us to do, or too grievous to suffer in obedience to Thee; and grant that by thus loving, we may become daily more like unto Thee, and finally may obtain the crown of life, which Thou hast promised to them that love Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION VIII.

CHARITY.—LOVE TO MAN.

THE second great commandment is to love our neighbour as ourselves ; and on this point also, which includes our whole duty to all with whom we have to do, we must give account before the judgment-seat of Christ.

Are you then in peace and charity with all the world ?

Have you so loved all men as to wish and pray sincerely for their welfare ?

Have you, as our Lord plainly commands, loved even your enemies, and returned good for evil, blessing for cursing, prayers for ill-usage ?

Have you always so done to others, as you would wish them to do to you ?

Have you paid due honour and reverence in heart, in word, and in behaviour, to your father and mother, and to all others whom God has set over you ?

In particular, have you honoured and obeyed the Queen, and all that are put in authority under her?

Have you honoured and respected your spiritual pastors, the bishops and clergy of Christ's Church, "esteeming them very highly in love for their work's sake?"

[Have you been faithful to and loved your wife, and not been bitter against her?]

[Have you been faithful to, loved, and revered your husband?]

[Have you endeavoured to provide honestly for your children, and to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?]

[Have you given to your servants that which was their due, forbearing threatening?]

[Have you served your master honestly and faithfully?]

Have you given way to sinful and violent anger?

Have you harboured malice or revenge; or secretly rejoiced at the misfortunes of others; or ever wished any man's death?

Have you, as far as possible, lived peaceably with all men?

Have you been strictly just in all your dealings ?

Have you cheerfully and willingly relieved the poor and needy, as God has blessed you ?

Have you shewn kindly sympathy towards your fellow-Christians, both in sorrow and in joy ?

Have you ever been guilty of evil-speaking, lying, or slandering ?

Have you ever coveted your neighbour's goods, or been envious of his prosperity ?

Do you from your heart forgive every one who has injured or offended you ?

Do you pray God to forgive you, as you forgive them ?

Can you call to mind any injury or wrong done by you to any other, for which you ought to ask pardon, or make restitution ?

Have you encouraged or tempted any one to commit sin ?

Have you endeavoured to "let your light shine before men," and by word and good example to convert sinners from the error of their way ; or have you said, with Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper ?"

We cannot truly love God, unless we love our brother also !

Prayers.

“**B**ELOVED, let us love one another, for love is of God ; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not God ; for God is love.”

Let us pray.

O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth ; send Thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before Thee : grant this for Thine only Son, Jesus Christ’s sake. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

We sinners do beseech Thee to hear us, O

Lord God, and that it may please Thee to have mercy upon all men ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

O BLESSED Father, who didst so love the world as to give Thine only Son for it ! O blessed Jesus, who didst so love Thy very enemies as to die for them ! O blessed Spirit, whose fruits are peace and love ; so fill the heart of this Thy servant with love to Thee, and to *his* brethren, that *his* charity may never fail, but may fit *him* to adore, and praise, and live with Thee for ever and ever. *Amen.*

BLESSED Jesus, who hast given us a new commandment, that we should love one another ; pardon the many sins of this Thy servant against charity in times past, and give *him* grace so to put away all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and evil-speaking, with all malice, that *he* may henceforth walk in love,

even as Thou, Lord, hast loved *him*, and hast given Thine own self to die for *him* upon the cross. *Amen.*

O MOST just and holy God, who hast commanded that we should make restitution to all those to whom we have done any wrong ; give this Thy servant grace, we beseech Thee, that whereinsoever *he* may have injured *his* neighbour, whether in soul or body, in estate or reputation, *he* may make satisfaction and reparation to the utmost of *his* power, and may likewise be ready to forgive any that have offended *him*, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence ; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection
we commit thee. The Lord bless thee,
and keep thee. The Lord make His face to
shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace, both now and evermore.
Amen.

SECTION IX.

MEDITATION.

GOD has given you a season of rest from your every-day work. How can you best employ it for His glory, and the benefit of your own soul ?

One way is by the practice of religious meditation, which will profitably fill up some of the intervals of ease which God bestows on you in your sickness.

Meditation is an earnest application of the mind to some divine subject, by which it may take the deeper root in our hearts, and bear good fruit in our lives, by the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

The object of meditation is that we may learn more of God, and of the depth and fullness of His Holy Word ; to raise our affections from earth to heaven ; to quicken our love and desire of that which is good, and our

abhorrence of evil ; to increase our shame and sorrow for our own sins ; and to make us strive to grow in all the graces of the Holy Spirit.

You may meditate upon each Divine Person in the Holy Trinity ; the several articles of the Creed ; the petitions of the Lord's Prayer ; the beatitudes ; the life and character of any of God's saints.

But, above all things, you should meditate day by day, during your sickness, upon the holy life, the infinite love, the wonderful humility and patience of Jesus.

Turn your eyes from your own sufferings to the bitter passion and cruel death of Him who suffered on the cross for you.

You can only read, perhaps, a little at a time, but this, with meditation and prayer, will be more profitable to you than to read whole hours without reflecting on it.

While any one is reading, his thoughts may be far away from the subject ; but by meditation we digest what we read, and turn it into the true nourishment of our souls.

Be not discouraged if you find it difficult to fix your mind at first. God knows your weak-

ness ; do your best, and He will bless your endeavours.

Take that part of the day for your meditation in which your mind is most clear, and you are the most likely to be free from distractions.

When you have chosen your subject, begin by calling to mind that you are in the presence of God, and lift up your heart to Him in prayer, that He will enlighten your understanding, and direct your meditation to His own glory, and your eternal good.

Then propose to yourself the particular point on which you wish to meditate ; as, e. g. the Incarnation, the Resurrection, the descent of the Holy Ghost, &c.

When reading any passage of Holy Scripture on the subject of your meditation, do it with all possible care and seriousness ; pausing at the end of each sentence, that the meaning may sink deeper into your heart.

Then think over the whole carefully, and try to see what God would have you learn from it as to your own duty.

Make an earnest resolution, choosing the good, and rejecting the evil, and conclude

with an hearty prayer to your heavenly Father to keep you ever in this mind.

Prayers.

“LET the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be always acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.”

Let us pray.

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

Thy words, O Lord, have I hid within my heart :

That I should not sin against Thee.

Open Thou mine eyes :

That I may see the wondrous things of
Thy law.

Lord, what love have I unto Thy law :

All the day long is my study in it.

Thy word is a lantern unto my feet :

And a light unto my path.

I am Thy servant, O grant me under-
standing :

That I may know Thy testimonies.

Mine eyes prevent the night-watches :

That I might be occupied in Thy words.

I have gone astray like a sheep that is lost :

O seek Thy servant, for I do not forget
Thy commandments.

O LORD, from whom all good things do
come ; grant to us Thy humble servants,
that by Thy holy inspiration we may think
those things that be good, and by Thy mer-
ciful guiding may perform the same ; through
our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY God, whom truly to know
is life eternal, give Thy grace to this Thy
servant, that *he* may remember Thee upon *his*
bed, and meditate upon Thee in the night-

watches. Grant that *he* may so consider Thy precepts, as to make them the rule of all *his* actions; that *he* may so receive Thy promises, as to adore Thee for having prepared such a glorious reward for them that love Thee; and that *he* may so fear Thy threatenings, as to take heed lest *he* provoke them. Fill *his* heart with the spirit of prayer and of holy meditation, that *his* hopes and affections being set upon heavenly things, *he* may at length be prepared to spend a joyful eternity in blessing and praising Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence, and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection
we commit thee. The Lord bless thee,
and keep thee. The Lord make His face to
shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace, both now and ever-
more. *Amen.*

SECTION X.

ACUTE SUFFERING.

PAIN is hard to bear, yet it is your heavenly Father who sends it ; and "He doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men."

No physician could be so careful for the health of our bodies, as God is for the health of our souls.

Pain is an evil ; it is part of the curse inflicted on man for sin ; but Jesus Christ has redeemed us from the curse, and by taking upon Him our pains, He has turned them into blessings to those who, for His sake, cheerfully drink of the bitter cup of which He drank for them.

Jesus was "a Man of sorrows ;" He suffered agonizing pains for you, and if you take up His cross, which God now offers you, and

suffer with Him, you will also reign with Him.

But the crown of thorns must be worn before the crown of glory.

The great Captain of our salvation learned obedience by sufferings; how then should we learn to obey without them?

And we indeed suffer justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds, but He had done nothing amiss.

The mere endurance of pain will do us no good; it will only make us fretful and cross, discontented and selfish, unless we take it humbly as God's correction, praying Him that it may tend to the increase in us of faith, hope, love, and true repentance.

Seek for the grace of *patience*, and then, though heaviness may endure for a night, joy will come in the morning; nor will God, even now, suffer you to be tempted, i. e. tried, above that which you are able to bear.

If you reach heaven at last, will you not then look back upon your present trials as "a light affliction, which was but for a moment?" St. Paul could feel this even in the midst of *his* sufferings.

We cannot *like* pain ; it is not joyous, but grievous. Still we can welcome it as a messenger from God, sent to teach us to know Christ, and the fellowship of His sufferings, that we may be conformed to His death, if by any means we may attain to the resurrection of the dead.

The sharpest pains in this life will soon end ; and God, in pity to our weakness, grants us intervals of ease and comfort : but the miseries and tortures of the next world have no end, no refreshment, no intermission.

“May the God of all grace, who hath called you unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.” *Amen.*

Prayers.

“COME unto Me, all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

“They that sow in tears, shall reap in joy.”

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O Lord, save this Thy servant ;
Who putteth *his* trust in Thee.
Send *him* help from Thy holy place ;
And evermore mightily defend *him*.

O remember not the sins and offences of
his youth ;

But according to Thy mercy think Thou
upon *him*, for Thy goodness.

Look upon *his* adversity and misery ;
And forgive *him* all *his* sin.

O Lord, hear our prayers ;
And let our cry come unto Thee.

O LORD, the Father of mercies and God
of all consolation, our only help in time
of need, we humbly beg Thy favour for this
Thy servant, now lying under Thy correction.
Consider *his* weakness, and enable *him* to
bear what Thou layest upon *him* with Chris-
tian patience and resignation. Send *him* ease
from *his* pains, and let all *his* sufferings tend
to purify *his* soul ; through the merits of
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

O BLESSED Jesus, who, in Thy wise Providence, dost call Thy people to take up their cross, and to suffer for Thy sake, give to this Thy servant patience to bear that cross which Thou hast laid upon *him* without fainting or murmuring; and when *his* afflictions press hardest upon *him*, let the graces and comforts of Thy Holy Spirit also abound in *him*, that looking unto Thee, the Author and Finisher of *his* faith, *he* may cheerfully endure the cross, and through much tribulation may enter into Thy heavenly kingdom; for Thine own merits' and mercies' sake. *Amen.*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who wast graciously pleased to suffer death upon the cross for us; vouchsafe, we humbly beseech Thee, to offer and shew forth to God the Father, for the soul of this Thy servant, all Thy bitter Passion and sufferings, which Thou didst bear upon the cross for us miserable sinners; and deliver *him* from all pains and sorrows, which by *his* sins *he* hath deserved. Hear us, O blessed Saviour, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XI.

SUDDEN AND DANGEROUS ILLNESS.

DEARLY beloved, you are, it may be, in a very short time to appear before God.

Try then to resign yourself entirely to His good pleasure, whether for life or death; and say, Father, not my will, but Thine be done!

Have you any directions to give as to your temporal affairs, that you may afterwards devote all your powers to the care of your soul?

If God causes your sun to set while it is yet day, and brings down your strength in your journey; if He is pleased to deny you time to prepare yourself, as you would wish, to meet your God; He will mercifully accept your good intention of doing so, if you turn to Him in hearty repentance and true faith.

Consider therefore as well as your strength will permit,—

Are you sorry from your heart that you have sinned against God ; and do you repent of all your sins, known and unknown ?

Will you try to amend, if it shall please God to spare your life ?

Do you believe in the blessed Trinity ; Father, Son, and Holy Ghost ; Three Persons, and One God ?

Do you believe that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was conceived by the Holy Ghost, took man's nature upon Him, and was born of the blessed Virgin Mary ?

Do you believe that He suffered pain and death upon the cross for your sins, that you might not die eternally ?

- Do you hope for salvation through Jesus Christ, and through Him alone ?

Do you wish and pray to be sanctified by the Holy Ghost ?

Do you desire to love God with all your heart and soul ?

Are you in love and charity with all mankind ?

Are you ready to ask pardon of all whom you have injured ?

Do you heartily forgive all who have injured you ?

Is there any special sin weighing down your conscience ?

While God still spares you, think not on earthly things, but put your whole trust and hope in the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ.

Lift up your heart to God, and say, O Lord, my heavenly Father, the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, I set between me and Thy wrath.

O Lord, let the infinite merits of Thy Son Jesus Christ atone for my evil deeds.

Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit ; for Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, Thou God of truth.

Prayers.

“ JESUS Christ came into the world to save sinners.”

“ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us : but if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who in Thine infinite wisdom hath smitten this Thy poor afflicted servant; be pleased to remember *him* in *his* hour of need, and help *him* so to search out and try *his* ways, that *he* may turn unto Thee with all *his* heart, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O MOST gracious Father, we beseech Thee to spare this our brother a little, that he may recover his strength, before he goes hence and is no more seen. Or, if Thou hast otherwise decreed, let Thy compassion supply to *him* the want of that time, which Thou dost usually grant us for repentance, and the trimming of our lamps. Stir up in *him* a hearty sorrow for *his* sins past, and grant that by an earnest love to Thee, and to Jesus, *his* Saviour, he may in a short time do the work of many

days, by the gracious assistance of the Holy Ghost the Comforter. *Amen.*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who, by the mouth of Thy prophet, hast said, I have loved thee with an everlasting love, therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee: vouchsafe, we humbly beseech Thee, to offer and shew forth to God the Father, for the soul of this Thy servant, that love of Thine, which drew Thee down from heaven to bear the bitterness of all Thy sufferings. Deliver *him* from all those pains and sorrows which *he* has deserved, and save *his* soul. Open unto *him* the gate of life, and make *him* to rejoice with all Thy saints in glory everlasting, for Thine own merits and mercies' sake. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health

and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XII.

SICKNESS OF CHILDREN.

My dear child, Jesus Christ our Saviour loved little children when He was upon earth, and desired them to be brought unto Him.

And to shew His love for them, He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them.

Afterwards He even suffered Himself to be nailed to the cross, and cruelly put to death, that He might open the kingdom of heaven to all who love Him, and do what He tells them.

And now that He has ascended up again into heaven, and is sitting in glory at the right hand of God the Father, He still loves good children, and calls them the lambs of His flock.

When you yourself were very little, before you could speak or do anything, He loved you, and made you one of His own children by baptism.

And He loves you still, and takes care of you, and gives you kind friends, and listens to your prayers.

Will you then love Him, and try to please Him, by bearing this sickness patiently ?

Can you say the Lord's Prayer ?

Do you say your prayers, night and morning ?

Can you repeat the Belief ?

Do you know your duty towards God, and towards your neighbour, from the Catechism ?

When you are wayward and fretful, or disobedient to your parents; or wilful and perverse, Jesus Christ is grieved by you.

Are you not very sorry that by these, or by any other naughty ways, (as by telling falsehoods, &c.,) you have grieved Jesus Christ, who loves you so dearly ?

Will you then pray to Him, and to your Father, which is in heaven, to forgive you all your faults, and to help you by His Holy Spirit to be good and holy for the time to come ?

When good children die, the holy angels take their happy souls to Paradise, where they will see God, and Jesus their Saviour, and the

blessed Saints, and the spirits of all other good children, who have been cleansed from their sins by the blood of Jesus.

But those who live a long time upon earth are sure to meet with many sorrows, and what is worse, may fall into wicked ways, and make God angry with them.

And though our bodies will be buried for a time, as the body of Jesus Christ was, yet, if we are good, they will be raised up at the last day, glorious and beautiful, and will be joined again to our souls, never to die any more, but to live for ever in heaven.

And heaven is more full of joy and pleasure and happiness than we can even think of.

Ought you not then to thank God, and to love Him with all your heart, if He should take you to Himself, and admit you by a shorter and happier way than others, to the enjoyment of those pleasures which are at His right hand for evermore?

Prayers.

“**I** LOVE them that love Me; and they that seek Me early shall find Me.”

“He shall feed His flock like a shepherd ;
He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and
carry them in His bosom.”

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY God, and merciful Father,
to whom alone belong the issues of life
and death ; look down from heaven, we humbly
beseech Thee, with the eyes of mercy upon
this child now lying upon the bed of sickness :
visit *him*, O Lord, with Thy salvation ; deliver
him in Thy good appointed time from *his*
bodily pain, and save *his* soul for Thy mercies’
sake : that if it shall be Thy pleasure to pro-
long *his* days here on earth, *he* may live to
Thee, and be an instrument of Thy glory, by
serving Thee faithfully, and doing good in
his generation ; or else receive *him* into those
heavenly habitations, where the souls of them
that sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual
rest and felicity. Grant this, O Lord, for

Thy mercies' sake, in the same Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. *Amen.*

ALmighty and immortal God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to Thee for succour, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead, we call upon Thee in behalf of this child ; and as Thou hast promised by Thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall have ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you ; so give now unto us that ask, let us that seek find, open the gate unto us that knock, that this child may enjoy Thine everlasting benediction, and may come to the eternal kingdom which Thou hast promised through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O GRACIOUS Father, who hast comprehended even little children under sickness and suffering, as the bitter fruit of sin, and art now pleased to visit this child with Thy

hastening hand ; we desire to bow to Thy divine appointment, and to say, Thy will be done. Yet, as Thou dost permit us to pray to Thee in time of need, we humbly beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to hear our earnest prayers on behalf of this little sufferer. If it be Thy will, O Lord, rebuke the disorder, and raise *him* up again for the comfort of *his* parents and family, and grant that *he* may grow in wisdom as in stature, and in favour with God and man. Or if Thou wilt call *him* to Thyself, and to an early enjoyment of the promised land, may we improve Thy visitation, and so live from henceforth, that we may all have the happiness of beholding *him* hereafter in glory ; through Him, who lived and died and rose again for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord, hear our prayer ;
And let our cry come unto Thee.

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection
we commit thee. The Lord bless thee,
and keep thee. The Lord make His face to

shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace, both now and evermore.
Amen.

SECTION XIII.

PROLONGED ILLNESS.

SINCE God has thought fit, in love to your soul, to visit you with lingering sickness, will you try how you may reap most profit by it?

Do you make Holy Scripture your companion, that it may be to you, as it was to David, a comfort in affliction?

When your sickness permits it, you will do well to read the Psalms in order, as they are appointed for each morning and evening.

There you will find divinely inspired forms of prayer, praise, thanksgiving, confession, and adoration, fit for every occasion, and every frame of mind.

Even our Blessed Lord used the words of the Psalms in prayer, and that in His greatest need, saying, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" and, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My Spirit."

Remark, in using the Psalms, how all David's

troubles and sorrows led him at once to remember and confess his sins.

Observe, too, that the Psalms, when rightly understood, are full from end to end of Jesus Christ.

Another part of God's Word, to which you should especially devote yourself, is the Gospel narrative of the life and death of our adorable Redeemer.

Dwell in love and faith upon His divine words and gracious deeds.

But before you read, and while you are reading, lift up your heart in prayer to the Holy Spirit, that He would bless His own words to your soul.

Should wearisome nights be appointed you, and sleep depart from your eyes, say to yourself a Psalm,—as the 23rd, 91st, or 130th ; which you should therefore learn by heart.

Or if you are too weak to go through a whole Psalm, try to repeat some verse of a hymn, or say "Lord, help me ;" "O Son of David, have mercy upon me," or the like.

Seek to have the prayers of the Church offered up for you. Prayer was made without ceasing of the Church unto God for St. Peter ; and it was heard.

Be careful, if possible, to say your own prayers morning and evening regularly ; and try to be in the spirit of prayer all the day long.

But do not vex yourself, if, from weakness, you sometimes cannot keep your thoughts fixed ; for the Lord is very gracious, and will not despise your imperfect petitions.

The Holy Spirit also will help your infirmities ; and Jesus will make intercession for you at the right hand of God, for He can feel for you, seeing “ He was in all points tempted like as we are.”

When any little trial inclines you to be impatient, or fretful, or restless, turn at once to the Lord in prayer, and He will give you strength according to your need.

Remember the blessing pronounced on those servants whom their Lord, when he cometh, shall find watching.

Be grateful for the kindness of those who minister to you, and try not to be unreasonable or impatient.

Strive to be cheerful, letting your mind dwell as much as you can on the many great and undeserved mercies of God towards you,

and as little as possible on your pains and troubles.

Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him: cast all your care upon Him, for he careth for you.

Prayers.

“**L**ET us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith: who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Let us humbly confess our sins before Almighty God.

FATHER, we have sinned against Heaven, and before Thee, and are no more worthy to be called Thy children. We have broken the vows of our Baptism, by too eagerly pursuing the vanities of this wicked world, by yielding to the temptations of the devil, and by indulging our own sinful lusts; by an unfruitful faith, and by disobeying Thy holy will

and commandments. Yet for the sake of Thy beloved Son, O Lord, turn not Thy mercy from us, but forgive us all our sins ; the sins of our youth, and the sins of our riper age ; the sins of our body, and the sins of our soul ; our secret sins, and what we have done presumptuously. Absolve us from all these our offences, whether remembered or forgotten by us, and of Thy great goodness blot them all out of Thy book, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O GRACIOUS Father, who chastenest us of Thy great mercy, for our good, and not for our destruction, have mercy upon this Thy servant, whom it has pleased Thee to afflict with sickness. Strengthen *him*, O Lord, to bear it patiently, and give *him* grace to seek Thee in *his* trial. O be Thou with *him*, and give *him* patience, and faith, and the Spirit of prayer, and of repentance, and of hope. Help

him to set *his* affections upon things above, and so to meditate upon Thee and upon Thy goodness, that *his* affliction may draw *him* closer unto Thee. In all *his* pains and weakness enable *him* ever to turn to Thee, and in Thee to find health and refreshment for *his* soul. Restore *him*, if it please Thee, to *his* bodily health, or if it be Thy will to take *him* to Thyself, prepare *him* for *his* great change, and receive *him* at last into that blessed abode, where saints departed dwell with their Redeemer and their Lord. *Amen.*

O LORD, who art about our path, and about our bed, and spiest out all our way ; cause this Thy servant to remember Thee, and to think upon Thee in the night-watches. Make *him* to commune with *his* own heart. Let *him* take advantage of *his* visitation to search and try *his* ways, and so to judge *himself* that *he* may discover whatsoever *he* hath done amiss, and may so fully make *his* peace with Thee, as not to be condemned by Thee in the world to come. Grant this, O Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence, and make thee know and feel that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XIV.

PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION.

DID you neglect, or but seldom receive, the Holy Communion in the days of your health and strength?

If so, *why* did you thus disobey the plain command of your Saviour, "Do this in remembrance of Me;" and how will you answer for it at the great day?

Or did you indeed come, but unworthily; i.e., without repentance, without intending to lead a new life, without faith, without a thankful heart, without charity?

Or did you come after trying to make due preparation, in all humility, in sorrow for your sins, in faith, in hope, in love to God and man?

In any case prepare yourself to receive the Holy Communion now.

If you have hitherto neglected it, God still calls you, and graciously offers you, it may be, a last opportunity of obeying Him.

If you have approached unworthily, repent and amend your fault.

If you have striven to be a worthy partaker, give God the praise, and draw near again in filial confidence, with a joyful and glad heart, to this heavenly feast.

This is the appointed memorial of His great sacrifice on the cross for our sins, and as often as we partake of it, we “do shew forth the Lord’s death till He come.”

The outward part of this holy Sacrament is bread and wine, which the Lord blessed and gave to His disciples, saying “Take, eat ; this is My Body ;” and, “Drink ye all of it, for this is My Blood.”

The inward and spiritual grace, therefore, of the Lord’s Supper is the Body and Blood of Christ.

And these are “verily and indeed taken and received by the faithful in the Lord’s Supper,” as St. Paul says,—“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the Blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the Body of Christ?”

Thus does He give Himself to be our spiri-

tual food and sustenance in that Holy Sacrament.

And thus are our souls strengthened and refreshed by the indwelling of Jesus ; for He says, "He that eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him."

Herein we receive the pardon of our sins, and all other benefits of His precious death, to the great comfort of our souls.

As we are once born into the world, and after that our bodies are nourished up unto perfection by proper food ; so are we once born again of water and of the Spirit, in the Sacrament of Baptism, and then this new and spiritual life is to be supported by that food of the soul which is offered us in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Still St. Paul says, "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."

Unworthy to come we all are, and we humbly confess it, but this is a very different thing from coming unworthily.

The Lord Himself invites us, and all will be welcome, who come in repentance, faith, and charity.

Pray then to Him who searcheth the heart, to enable you to examine yourself honestly and thoroughly.

Do you sincerely detest your past sins, and are you heartily sorry for having offended God by them?

Are you heartily resolved by God's grace to lead a Christian life from henceforth; making God's law the rule of all you do, or say, or think?

Do you firmly believe that, as the blood of the Paschal lamb, sprinkled on their doors, saved the Israelites from the destroying angel; so the Blood of Jesus, sprinkled on your heart, will save you from death eternal?

Are you thankful that Jesus Christ died for you, even when you were an enemy, to redeem your soul from hell, and to restore you to God's favour?

Will you try to shew your gratitude in your life?

Are you in love and charity with all men, bearing no grudge nor any malice to any person whatsoever?

Are you ready to ask pardon of any one whom you have offended?

Do you forgive and pray for those who have offended you ?

Will you, according to your ability, shew your love to Jesus by ministering to His poor members ?

If these are the sincere resolves and desires of your heart, as a minister of Jesus Christ I bid you draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort ^a.

Prayers.

“ I WILL wash my hands in innocency, O Lord ; and so will I go to Thine altar.”

Let us pray.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY Lord of heaven and earth, we confess to Thee that we have sinned exceedingly, in thought, word, and deed, through our own fault, our great and grievous fault ; yet we beseech Thee, consider not the multi-

^a The priest will use the three exhortations in the Office for Holy Communion as in his discretion he shall see fit.

tude of our offences, but remember Thine infinite mercies. Give us, O Lord, true contrition of heart for all the sins we have committed against Thee, that being turned from all evil ways, we may by a sincere repentance obtain Thy pardon and peace, for the sake and through the merits of Thy blessed Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O LORD, our heavenly Father, whose well-beloved Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, did offer up Himself upon the altar of the cross, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, and did ordain a pure offering of bread and wine, as a memorial before Thee for ever of His most precious death; assist us, we beseech Thee, with Thy Holy Spirit, that utterly forsaking our old sins, we may draw near to Thine altar without presumption, and be made partakers of Thy grace. And grant us so to remember before Thee, the

death and sufferings of Thy Son, that they may avail for the remission of our sins, and our acceptance at the last day ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O BLESSED Jesus, so open the eyes of our faith to discern Thy Body and Blood in this holy Sacrament ; so prepare our souls to communicate, and clothe us with the wedding garment of righteousness, that we may be welcome guests at Thy Table. Fill our hearts with a lively faith, a deep humility, filial obedience, pure affections, and universal charity. O raise in our souls all that zeal and devotion, that love and desire, that joy and delight, that praise and thanksgiving, which become the solemn remembrance of Thee, our crucified Saviour, by those whom Thou hast redeemed with Thine own Blood. *Amen, and Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence ; and make thee know and feel that there is none other Name

under heaven given to man, in whom, and through whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XV.

THE COMMUNION OF THE SICK.

¶ *Forasmuch as all mortal men be subject to many sudden perils, diseases, and sicknesses, and ever uncertain what time they shall depart out of this life ; therefore, to the intent they may be always in a readiness to die, whensoever it shall please Almighty God to call them, the Curates shall diligently from time to time (but especially in the time of pestilence, or other infectious sickness) exhort their Parishioners to the often receiving of the holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ, when it shall be publickly administered in the Church ; that so doing, they may, in case of sudden visitation, have the less cause to be disquieted for lack of the same. But if the sick person be not able to come to the Church, and yet is desirous to receive the Communion in his house ; then he must give timely notice to the Curate, signifying also how many there are to communicate with him, (which shall be three, or two at the least,) and having a convenient place in the sick man's house, with all things necessary so prepared, that the Curate may reverently minister, he shall there celebrate the holy Communion, beginning with the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel, here following.*

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY, everliving God, Maker of mankind, who dost correct those whom Thou dost love, and chastise every one whom Thou dost receive; We beseech Thee to have mercy upon this Thy servant visited with Thine hand, and to grant that *he* may take *his* sickness patiently, and recover *his* bodily health, (if it be Thy gracious will); and whensoever *his* soul shall depart from the body, it may be without spot presented unto Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle. Heb. xii. 5.

MY son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him. For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth; and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.

The Gospel. St. John v. 24.

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

¶ *After which the Priest shall proceed according to the form prescribed for the holy Communion, beginning at these words [Ye that do truly &c.]*

YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in His holy ways ; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort ; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

¶ *Then shall this general Confession be made, in the name of all those that are minded to receive the holy Communion, by one of the Ministers ; both he and all the people kneeling humbly upon their knees, and saying,*

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men ; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against Thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our mis-

doings ; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us ; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father ; for Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past ; and grant we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of Thy Name ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Priest (or the Bishop, being present,) stand up, and turning himself to the people, pronounce this Absolution.*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of His great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto Him ; Have mercy upon you ; pardon and deliver you from all your sins ; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness ; and bring you to everlasting life ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

HEAR what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to Him.

COME unto Me all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

St. Matth. xi. 28.

So God loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

St. John iii. 16.

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Tim. i. 15.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He is the propitiation for our sins.

1 St. John ii. 1.

¶ *After which the Priest shall proceed, saying,*

Lift up your hearts.

Answer. We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Answer. It is meet and right so to do.

¶ *Then shall the Priest turn to the Lord's Table,
and say,*

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O Lord,
* Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

* *These words [Holy Father] must be omitted on Trinity Sunday.*

¶ *Here shall follow the Proper Preface, according to the time, if there be any specially appointed: or else immediately shall follow,*

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name; evermore praising Thee, and saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory: Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High. *Amen.*

PROPER PREFACES.

Upon Christmas-day, and seven days after.

BECAUSE Thou didst give Jesus Christ Thine only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man of the substance of

the Virgin Mary His mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Easter-day, and seven days after.

BUT chiefly are we bound to praise Thee for the glorious Resurrection of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord: for He is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by His death hath destroyed death, and by His rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Ascension-day, and seven days after.

THROUGH Thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who after His most glorious Resurrection manifestly appeared to all His Apostles, and in their sight ascended up into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where He is, thither we might also ascend, and reign with Him in glory. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon Whit-Sunday, and six days after.

THROUGH Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose most true promise, the Holy

Ghost came down as at this time from heaven with a sudden great sound, as it had been a mighty wind, in the likeness of fiery tongues, lighting upon the Apostles, to teach them, and to lead them to all truth; giving them both the gift of divers languages, and also boldness with fervent zeal constantly to preach the Gospel unto all nations; whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of Thee, and of Thy Son Jesus Christ. Therefore with Angels, &c.

Upon the Feast of Trinity only.

WHO art one God, one Lord; not one only Person, but three Persons in one Substance. For that which we believe of the glory of the Father, the same we believe of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, without any difference or inequality. Therefore with Angels, &c.

¶ *After each of which Prefaces shall immediately be sung or said,*

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name; ever-

more praising Thee, and saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory : Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Priest, kneeling down at the Lord's Table, say in the name of all them that shall receive the Communion this Prayer following.*

WE do not presume to come to this Thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Thy Table. But Thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy : Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by His body, and our souls washed through His most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. *Amen.*

¶ *When the Priest, standing before the Table, hath so ordered the Bread and Wine, that he may with the more readiness and decency break the Bread before the people, and take the Cup into his hands, he shall say the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth.*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father,
 who of Thy tender mercy didst give Thine
 only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the
 Cross for our redemption; who made there
 (by His one oblation of Himself once offered)
 a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation,
 and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole
 world; and did institute, and in His holy
 Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual
 memory of that His precious death, until His
 coming again; Hear us, O merciful Father,
 we most humbly beseech Thee; and grant
 that we receiving these Thy creatures of bread
 and wine, according to Thy Son our Saviour
 Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remem-
 brance of His death and passion, may be par-
 takers of His most blessed Body and Blood:
 who, in the same night that He was betrayed,
^a took Bread; and, when He had
 given thanks, ^b He brake it, and
 gave it to His disciples, saying,
 Take, eat, ^c this is My Body which
 is given for you: Do this in re-
 membrance of Me. Likewise after supper
 He ^d took the Cup; and, when He
 had given thanks, He gave it to

^a Here the
 Priest is to take
 the Paten into
 his hands:

^b And here to
 break the bread:

^c And here to
 lay his hand up-
 on all the Bread.

^d Here he is
 to take the Cup
 into his hand:

them, saying, Drink ye all of this ; for this

* And here to lay his hand upon every vessel (be it Chalice or Flagon) in which there is any Wine to be consecrated. ° is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins :

Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of Me. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Minister first receive the Communion in both kinds himself, and then proceed to deliver to the Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, in like manner, (if any be present,) and after that to the people also in order, into their hands, all meekly kneeling. And, when he delivereth the Bread to any one, he shall say,*

THE Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on Him in Thy heart by faith with thanksgiving.

¶ *And the Minister that delivereth the Cup to any one shall say,*

THE Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

¶ *If the consecrated Bread or Wine be all spent before all have communicated, the Priest is to consecrate more according to the Form before prescribed; beginning at [Our Saviour Christ in the same night, &c.] for the blessing of the Bread; and at [Likewise after Supper, &c.] for the blessing of the Cup.*

¶ *When all have communicated, the Minister shall return to the Lord's Table and reverently place upon it what remaineth of the consecrated Elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.*

¶ *Then shall the Priest say the Lord's Prayer, the people repeating after him every Petition.*

OUR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

¶ *After shall be said as followeth.*

O LORD and heavenly Father, we Thy humble servants entirely desire Thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly be-

seeching Thee to grant, that by the merits and death of Thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in His blood, we and all Thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His Passion. And here we offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto Thee; humbly beseeching Thee, that all we, who are partakers of this holy Communion, may be fulfilled with Thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto Thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech Thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto Thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

Amen.

Or this,

ALmighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank Thee, for that Thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of

the most precious Body and Blood of Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ ; and dost assure us thereby of Thy favour and goodness towards us ; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of Thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people ; and are also heirs through hope of Thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and Passion of Thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with Thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as Thou hast prepared for us to walk in ; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.
Amen.

¶ *Then shall be said or sung,*

GLORY be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy ; Thou only art the Lord ; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Priest (or Bishop if he be present) shall let them depart with this Blessing.*

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord : and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ *At the time of the distribution of the holy Sacrament the Priest shall first receive the Communion himself, and after minister unto them that are appointed to communicate with the sick, and last of all to the sick person.*

¶ *But if a man, either by reason of extremity of sickness, or for want of warning in due time to the Curate, or for lack of company to receive with him, or by any other just impediment, do not receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood, the Curate shall instruct him, that if he do truly repent him of his sins, and stedfastly believe that Jesus Christ hath suffered death upon the Cross for him, and shed His Blood for his redemption, earnestly remembering the benefits he hath thereby, and giving him hearty thanks therefore, he doth eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ profitably to his Soul's health, although he do not receive the Sacrament with his mouth.*

¶ *When the sick person is visited, and receiveth the holy Communion all at one time, then the Priest, for more expedition, shall cut off the form of the Visitation at the Psalm [In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust, &c.] and go straight to the Communion.*

¶ *In the time of the Plague, Sweat, or such other like contagious times of sickness or diseases, when none of the Parish or neighbours can be gotten to communicate with the sick in their houses, for fear of the infection, upon special request of the diseased, the Minister may only communicate with him.*

SECTION XVI.

HOLINESS.

Two things are necessary to our salvation : pardon of our sins, without which we shall be condemned ; and holiness, “ without which no man shall see the Lord.”

Pardon is to be obtained only through the merits of Jesus Christ, upon our turning to God with hearty repentance and true faith.

Holiness is the work of the Spirit of God in our hearts.

In our Baptism we are born again of water and of the Spirit, and therefore He is called in the Nicene Creed “ the Giver of life ;” and by St. Paul, “ the Spirit of life.”

In Confirmation we receive increased grace and strength from the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

In the Holy Communion still greater measures of the Holy Spirit are given us for our sanctification, it being His office to take of the

things that are Christ's and to apply them to our souls.

If you have lately received your Saviour into your heart in that holy feast, see that you do not forfeit so great a blessing by allowing any evil to get the mastery over you, but strive to retain His gracious presence within you to your life's end.

The Holy Spirit also condescends to take up His abode within us, and therefore our bodies are called His Temples.

And this makes it so awful a thing to have polluted our bodies by sin, for "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy."

But, on the other hand, what comfort and support does the in-dwelling of the Holy Spirit give us in our struggle with Satan,—for "greater is He that is in you than He that is in the world."

The Holy Spirit pleads with us from our earliest years, and if we do not *resist*, and *grieve* Him, and *quench* His blessed influence in our hearts, He will aid us to root out all sinful desires and wicked thoughts; and will implant in their stead His blessed fruits, "love,

joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."

Perhaps this sickness may be the last time of His pleading with you, for God has said, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man."

Listen then *now*, while it is called to-day, to His still small voice within you.

Jesus Christ came not only to die for you, but also to be your pattern of holiness, and you must strive, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, so to follow His steps, that you may be, in your degree, holy even as He is holy.

Follow also the blessed saints in their heavenward path. They were men of like passions with us, yet they became holy, by never counting themselves to have attained, but still pressing on towards Christian perfection.

Lay the foundation of holiness deeply in repentance and faith, or it will never stand against the storms of temptation.

Aim to do all things not to please other men, nor to please yourself, but simply and purely to please God, and in humble imitation of Jesus Christ.

Pray that in all things His will may be your will, His pleasure your pleasure.

Strive especially, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to root out your besetting sin, whatever it may be.

Holiness consists in our being renewed in the spirit of our mind, and conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

It will only be perfected in heaven, but we must daily advance towards it here; and much may be done, by the grace of God, even on a sick-bed.

Weak as we are, we may rely on Christ's sure word of promise, "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Prayers.

"**N**OW being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."

Let us pray.

O MOST holy Lord God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and hast declared that without holiness no man shall see Thee; Do Thou purge us from all filthi-

ness of flesh and spirit, teaching us to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live righteously, soberly, and godly in this present world. O make us holy in all manner of conversation, and grant that we may so live before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, that, together with all other Thy saints, we may at length receive from Thee the gift of eternal life, for the sake and through the merits of Jesus Christ the Righteous. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

GLORY be to Thee, O blessed Jesus, who hast made us partakers spiritually of Thy Body and Blood, which Thy mercy hath given, and our faith hath received into our souls. O let that heavenly food infuse new life and new vigour into our souls, that our faith may daily increase, that we may grow more humble, and more contrite for our sins, that we may love Thee, and delight in Thee, and praise Thee more fervently and incessantly than ever. Let

the grace of this holy Communion support us in all our temptations, comfort us in every trouble, strengthen us in every good word and work, and further us in the attainment of everlasting salvation, for 'Thy merits' and mercies' sake. *Amen.*

O THOU, who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life, send down Thy Holy Spirit, and change us into Thine own image, from glory to glory. Thou didst take up Thy cross; let us not dream of slothful ease. Thou didst resist temptations; let us not give way to them. Thou didst despise the world; let us not love and serve it. Thou wentest about doing good; fill our hearts also with fervent charity. Thou didst deny Thyself; let us not indulge in vain desires. Thou didst work while the day lasted; let us labour for Thy glory in this our day. Thou wast meek and humble; let the same meekness and humility take root in our souls. Thou didst patiently endure injuries; let us not fret and murmur under them. Thou didst return good for evil; teach us to do the same. Thou didst resign Thyself to Thy Father's will and pleasure;

O teach us also this resignation. Lord, make us holy, even as Thou art holy ; perfect, as our Father which is in heaven is perfect. O Lord, there is no other way to glory but by Thee : Give us grace therefore to follow all the steps of Thy most holy life ; and bring us safely home to Thyself, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together Thine elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of Thy Son Christ our Lord ; Grant us grace so to follow Thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which Thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love Thee ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him ; to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence, and make thee know and feel that there is none other Name

under heaven given to man, in whom and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XVII.

THE APPROACH OF DEATH.

IF you feel your strength decaying, and this world fading away, think first of all whether you have left undone anything necessary to make your peace with God.

Does any special sin press on your conscience?

If you have a comfortable hope that your sins are forgiven you through the atoning blood of Jesus, and that He is made unto you righteousness, and sanctification, as well as redemption, then you may say with Simeon, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace."

Be not afraid of death, for "the sting of death is sin," but Jesus is exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance to His people, and remission of sins.

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death," says David, "I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy

staff (i.e. Thy sceptre or kingly power, and Thy pastoral care as the good Shepherd,) comfort me."

Hear also what St. Paul says: "To me to die is gain;"—and therefore he had a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better.

Whilst we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord: therefore we are willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

The body shall return for a time to the dust of which it was first made; but the spirit shall return unto God, our Creator, Regenerator, and Sanctifier.

And at the last day the Lord will change our vile bodies also, and fashion them like unto His glorious Body.

And God will wipe away tears from off all faces, and there shall be no more sorrow, nor crying, nor pain, but death shall be swallowed up in victory.

Thanks, therefore, be to God, who giveth us this victory over death, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And "blessed are the dead that die in the

Lord ; yea, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours, and their works do follow them.”

The righteous shall shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Lift up your heart, then, unto the Lord, as your strength shall permit, and use such ejaculations as these :—

O Lord, wash my soul in Thy blood, that it may be presented without spot unto the Father. Let me die in Thy favour, rest in peace, and rise again in glory. *Amen.*

Give Thine Angels charge over me, that they may receive my soul, and conduct it to Paradise.

In Thee alone, O Jesus, my Saviour and Redeemer, is all my trust ; O let me never be confounded.

Let not my faith waver, nor my hope lose its brightness, nor my love wax cold.

O Lord God most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, deliver me not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

By Thine agony and bloody sweat, by Thy cross and passion, deliver me, O Jesus, now and at the hour of death, and in the day of judgment.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, Three Persons and One God, have mercy upon me, and receive my soul.

Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly. I desire to be dissolved, and to be with Thee. Into Thy hands I commend my spirit, for Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, Thou God of truth.

A solemn Litany for a Sick Person, when there appears small hope of recovery.

O God the Father of heaven, have mercy upon this Thy servant, keep and defend *him*.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon *him*, save and deliver *him*.

O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon *him*, strengthen and comfort *him*.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon *him*.

Remember not, Lord, *his* offences, neither take Thou vengeance of *his* sins, but spare *him*, good Lord, spare Thy servant, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious Blood, and be not angry with *him* for ever.

Spare *him*, good Lord.

From Thy wrath and indignation ; from the

fear of death ; from the guilt and burden of *his* sins ; and from the dreadful sentence of the last judgment,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

From the sting and terrors of conscience ; from impatience, distrust, and despair ; from extreme sickness or pain that may withdraw *his* mind from Thee,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

From all the crafts and assaults of the devil, and from the bitter pains of eternal death,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

By Thy agony, and bloody sweat ; by Thy strong crying and tears ; by Thy bitter Cross and Passion ; and by Thy precious death and burial,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

By Thy mighty Resurrection ; by Thy glorious Ascension ; by Thy gracious intercession ; and by the comforts of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

For the glory of Thy Name ; for Thy loving mercy, and for Thy truth's sake ; in this time of *his* extremity ; in *his* last and greatest need ; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

We sinners do beseech Thee to hear us,
O Lord, and that it may please Thee to re-
member *him* with the favour Thou bearest
unto Thy people, and to visit *him* with Thy
salvation ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to receive *his* soul
to Thy mercy, and to give *him* a joyful and
quiet departure ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to forgive all the sins
and misdeeds which through the malice of the
devil, or by *his* own frailty, *he* hath committed
against Thee ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee not to lay to *his*
charge, what in the lust of the flesh, the lust
of the eye, or the pride of life, *he* hath com-
mitted against Thee ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to make *him* a par-
taker of all Thy mercies and promises in Christ
Jesus ; to vouchsafe unto *his* soul the estate
of joy, happiness, and immortality, with all
Thy blessed saints in Thy heavenly kingdom ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to grant unto *his* body rest and peace, and a part in the blessed resurrection unto life and glory ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech Thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world ;

Have mercy upon this Thy servant.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father ;

Grant *him* Thy peace.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

O FATHER of mercies, and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need ; We fly unto Thee for succour in behalf of this Thy servant, here lying under Thy hand in great weakness of body. Look graciously upon *him*, O Lord, and the more the outward man decayeth, strengthen *him*, we beseech Thee, so much the more continually with Thy grace

and Holy Spirit in the inner man. Give *him* unfeigned repentance for all the errors of *his* life past, and stedfast faith in Thy Son Jesus ; that *his* sins may be done away by Thy mercy, and *his* pardon sealed in heaven, before *he* go hence, and be no more seen. We know, O Lord, that there is no word impossible with Thee ; and that, if Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance amongst us. Yet forasmuch as in all appearance the time of *his* dissolution draweth near, so fit and prepare *him*, we beseech Thee, against the hour of death, that after *his* departure hence in peace, and in Thy favour, *his* soul may be received into Thine everlasting kingdom, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

THE Almighty Lord, who is a most strong tower to all them that put their trust in Him, to whom all things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence ; and make thee know and feel, that there is none other Name under heaven given to man, in whom

and through whom thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XVIII.

THE DEATH-BED.

HEAR what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to Him.

“Come unto Me, all that travail and are heavy-laden, and I will refresh you.”

“So God loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Hear also what St. Paul saith: “This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.”

Hear also what St. John saith: “If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He is the propitiation for our sins.”

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

O ALMIGHTY God, with whom do live the spirits of just men made perfect, after they are delivered from their earthly prisons; we humbly commend the soul of this Thy servant, our dear *brother*, into Thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator, and most merciful Saviour; most humbly beseeching Thee, that it may be precious in Thy sight. Wash it, we pray Thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb, that was slain to take away the sins of the world; that whatever defilements it may have contracted in the midst of this miserable and naughty world, through the lusts of the flesh, or the wiles of Satan, being purged and done away, it may be presented pure and without spot to Thee. And teach us who survive, in this and other like daily spectacles of mortality, to see how frail and uncertain our own condition is; and so to number our days, that we may seriously apply our hearts to that holy and heavenly wisdom, whilst we live here, which may in the end bring us to life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ Thine only Son our Lord. *Amen.*

INTO Thy merciful hands, O heavenly Father, we commend the soul of this Thy servant now about to depart from the body. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech Thee, a sheep of Thine own fold, a lamb of Thine own flock, a sinner of Thine own redeeming. Receive *him* into the arms of Thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, into the glorious estate of all Thy chosen saints. O most merciful Jesu, that cannot perish which is committed to Thy charge: receive, we beseech Thee, *his* spirit in peace. *Amen.*

GOD the Father, who created Thee; God the Son, who redeemed Thee; God the Holy Ghost, who hath infused His grace into thee, assist thee in all thy trial, and lead thee in the way of everlasting peace. *Amen.*

God grant thy place may be in Abraham's bosom. *Amen.*

God grant thou mayest behold thy blessed Saviour in glory. *Amen.*

God grant thy death may be precious in His sight, and that thou mayest rest in Him for ever. *Amen.*

JESUS Christ absolve thee from all thy sins. *Amen.*

Jesus Christ, that redeemed thee with His agony and bloody death, have mercy upon thee, and strengthen thee in this agony of death. *Amen.*

Jesus Christ, that rose again the third day from death, raise thee, body and soul, in the resurrection of the just. *Amen.*

Jesus Christ, that ascended into heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of God, bring thee safely into the place of eternal happiness and joy. *Amen.*

THE Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

DEPART, O Christian soul, in the Name of God the Father, who created thee; of God the Son, who redeemed thee; of God the Holy Ghost, who sanctified thee; One living and immortal God; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

¶ *Should the dying Person be still sensible, let the Priest repeat from time to time, solemnly and distinctly, some of the following Sentences.*

LORD, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.

Being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend *his* spirit, for Thou hast redeemed it, O Lord, Thou God of truth.

Remember not the sins and offences of *his* youth, but according to Thy mercy think Thou upon *him*, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

Say unto *his* soul, I am thy salvation.

Say unto *him*, To-day shalt thou be with Me in Paradise.

Guide Thou *him* through the valley of the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, receive *his* spirit. Open to him the gates of everlasting glory.

Let Thy loving spirit lead *him* forth into the land of righteousness.

Send Thine angels to carry *him* into Abraham's bosom.

Receive *him* into the arms of Thy mercy, and give *him* an inheritance with Thy saints in light.

O holy and merciful Saviour, suffer *him* not at *his* last hour for any pains of death to fall from Thee.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that I shall be raised again at the last day.

I am the Resurrection and the Life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin.

Jesus said, I am the good Shepherd. The good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Thou art my Helper and my Redeemer; O Lord, make no long tarrying.

O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded. *Amen.*

Go to thy rest, O my soul;

From death to life,

From sorrow to joy,

From earth to Paradise.

Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.

Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

¶ *A prayer to be used after the departure of the Soul.*

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, seeing it hath pleased Thee to take this Thy ser-

vant out of the miseries of this sinful world, unto Thy heavenly kingdom ; let Thy Name, O Lord, be blessed now and for evermore. Make us, we beseech Thee, who yet remain, mindful of our own mortality, that we may walk before Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life ; and when the time of our departure shall come, may we rest in Thee, as our hope is this Thy servant doth ; that we with *him*, and all others departed in the true faith of Thy holy Name, may rejoice together in Thy eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with us all, now and evermore. *Amen.*

SECTION XIX.

CONSOLATION.

DEARLY beloved, while I deeply sympathise in your affliction, suffer me, as a minister of Jesus Christ, to offer you a few words of exhortation and comfort.

The Gospel does not forbid our natural sorrow and mourning for the departed, but it would have us mourn as Christians.

Jesus Himself wept at the tomb of Lazarus, and we may sorrow unblamed for the loss of our friends, if we sorrow not as those that have no hope.

You must take care that, in your sorrow, there be no mixture of murmuring against the holy will of God.

Your trial is hard to bear, yet be comforted, for it comes from your heavenly Father's hand, and "He doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men."

Try to say with your Saviour, "The cup

which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it ?”

Remember that, as it was the Lord who gave, so it is the Lord who hath taken away, and learn to say with holy Job, “Blessed be the Name of the Lord.”

Remember, too, that you will go to *him*, but *he* will not return to you ; and let your loss teach you to prepare at once for your own end, that you may die the death of the righteous, and your last end may be like his.

To make our peace with God is a great and difficult work, and one which cannot well be begun, continued, and finished amidst the pains and distractions of a death-bed ; though men too often leave themselves no other time ; and yet who can tell that his soul will not be required of him suddenly ?

“Therefore be ye also ready ; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.”

Jesus said to Martha, “Thy brother shall rise again.” This is our comfort ; the hope of a glorious resurrection.

If we have a comfortable hope respecting our *brother*, our sorrow should be mixed with

joy; we should be, though "sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing."

"If ye loved Me," said our Lord, "ye would rejoice because I said, I go to the Father." And when He was taken from them, "they returned to Jerusalem with great joy."

It was a voice from heaven which St. John heard saying, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Could you wish to recall one who is at rest, having died with a hope full of immortality? Here we are careful and troubled about many things; but *he* has obtained with Mary the better part. Could you wish to take it from him?

Ought we not gladly to say Amen to the prayer of our Lord,—“Father, I will that they whom Thou hast given Me be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory?”

Shall we complain at having one friend less here on earth, if we have one more in the presence of God? Such a friend is “not lost, but gone before.”

Yet since human consolation is but weak, let me pray with St. Paul, that “Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God, even our

Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, may comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work."

Prayers.

"THE Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the Name of the Lord."

"If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

["Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."]

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY God, who knowest the weakness of our nature, give these Thy servants such a measure of the graces of Thy

Holy Spirit as may enable them to bear this affliction with that humility, resignation, and submission to Thy Divine will which becomes Christians. Grant also that no repining thoughts may find place in their hearts, and that they may not sorrow as those that have no hope. Let not their grief exceed the bounds of reason and religion, but so temper it, we beseech Thee, with the consolations of the Holy Ghost that it may turn to the good of their own souls, and to Thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O BLESSED Lord, of whose great mercy it is that good cometh out of evil, turn this affliction into a blessing to every member of this family, that the house of mourning may prove to them better than the house of feasting. Teach them to set their affections more steadfastly upon the joys that are above, the pleasures that are at Thy right hand for evermore. And grant that the humble hope we cherish, that our dear departed *brother* is now among the spirits of just men made perfect, may cause us to press on the more earnestly towards the prize of our high calling in Christ

Jesus. And when the time of our own great change shall come, may we be able to give up our account with joy, and be received into that place of rest and peace, where all tears shall be wiped from our eyes, and all our troubles and sorrows shall have an end; for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

¶ *On the Loss of a Child.*

ALMIGHTY God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, we adore Thy majesty, and submit to Thy providence, and thank Thy gracious mercy, who hast called to Thyself the soul of this Thy child, and hast thereby delivered *him* from all the miseries of this sinful world. With the same hand Thou hast crowned *him*, and smitten us; Thou hast taken *him* to dwell with saints and angels, and left us to mourn for our sins and Thy displeasure. Comfort, O Lord, the hearts of these Thy servants, and turn Thy rod into mercy. Fill up the number of Thine elect, and satisfy the desire of those who wait and pray for Thy second coming, that we, with all those who have departed this life in the true faith of Jesus Christ, may have

our perfect consummation and bliss in Thy eternal glory, for His merits' and mercies' sake. *Amen.*

MAY the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

SECTION XX.

RECOVERY.

DEARLY beloved, since God has been pleased to restore you so far, and to give you a good hope of entire recovery, let me remind you that the first-fruits of your renewed health should be offered to Him.

And though you should at once return thanks to God for His great mercy, do not forget that it will be your duty also to hasten, as soon as possible, to God's own house, and to thank Him for His loving-kindness in the midst of the congregation.

We are all members one of another, being all united in the Church to Christ our Head ; and as when one member suffers, all the members suffer with it ; so when one member rejoices, all the members rejoice with it. Those who prayed for you in sickness will gladly give thanks for your recovery.

Our highest act of worship and thanksgiving

is the Holy Communion of Christ's Body and Blood, which is therefore called the Eucharist. This, then, which is the duty of every Christian, is especially your duty.

When the ten lepers were suffering from their loathsome disease, they were ready to fly to Christ. Were you not also glad to betake yourself to Him in earnest prayer, when suffering from pain and sickness, and perhaps in danger of death?

Yet when healed, one only of the ten returned to give glory to God; one only was grateful. And so it is too often now.

Too often the thought of God, and the thankfulness due to Him, fades and vanishes away with the pain. God forbid it should be so with you!

If it had pleased Him that your sickness had been unto death, were you living so holy a life; were you so full of faith, and hope, and love to God, and to all men; so earnest in your repentance, so humble-minded, so pure, so full of prayer, so abounding in all the blessed fruits of the Spirit, that you were quite ready to meet your Saviour and your Judge?

Well, then, the Lord, who is long-suffering

to us-ward, and not willing that any should perish, has brought you back from the brink of the grave. Will you not try to lead a new life, walking from henceforth in His holy ways ?

This is true love and thankfulness, and thus, like the grateful leper, you will secure the blessing of Jesus.

Remember your holy thoughts and good resolutions, made in the time of your sickness, and strive to put them in practice.

Do not be satisfied with general purposes of amendment, but set to work at once, by the assistance of the Holy Spirit, to overcome and root out your besetting sins, whatever they be.

If you become careless, your love of sin will return; God will be provoked, and will withdraw His grace, and the latter end will be worse with you than the beginning.

If the evil spirit is now cast out, let him not return again with seven worse spirits than himself.

Because of this danger, Jesus warned the man whom He had healed, saying, "Behold thou art made whole ; sin no more, lest a worse thing happen unto thee."

Turn then to God at once ; consecrate yourself to Him ; live always as in His presence ; constantly frequent God's House, and the Holy Communion ; meditate upon death and judgment, heaven and hell ; and strive so to pass your remaining days in His faith, fear, and love, that when your Lord shall return and knock, you may be ready to open to Him immediately.

Blessed are those servants, whom their Lord, when He cometh, shall find watching.

Prayers.

“THE Lord hath chastened and corrected me, but He hath not given me over unto death.”

“And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even a thanksgiving unto our God.”

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c. *Amen.*

GLORY be to Thee, O heavenly Father, for the sickness Thou didst in mercy send to

this Thy servant. Lord, the stripes Thou didst lay upon *him* were stripes of love.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for having delivered *him* from the terrors of death, and for having restored *him* to health. All love and glory be unto Thee for evermore. *Amen.*

Praise the Lord, O my soul : and all that is within me praise His holy Name.

Praise the Lord, O my soul : and forget not all His benefits.

Who forgiveth all thy sin : and healeth all thine infirmities.

Who saveth thy life from destruction : and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness.

O LORD God, in whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind, give this Thy servant grace to remember and perform all *his* holy resolutions in the time of sickness. Fill *his* heart with the deepest gratitude, and the most fervent love to Thee for all Thy mercies. Grant that *his* return to health may not be accompanied with a return to sin and vanity, but that *he* may consecrate to Thy service the life which Thou hast so mercifully prolonged, and may so live hence-

forth in Thy fear, that *he* may at last die in peace with all the world, and with Thee, O Father, who with the Son and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

THE SEVEN PENITENTIAL PSALMS.

PSALM vi.

1 O LORD, rebuke me not in Thine indignation : neither chasten me in Thy displeasure.

2 Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak : O Lord, heal me, for my bones are vexed.

3 My soul also is sore troubled : but, Lord, how long wilt Thou punish me ?

4 Turn Thee, O Lord, and deliver my soul : O save me for Thy mercy's sake.

5 For in death no man remembereth Thee : and who will give Thee thanks in the pit ?

6 I am weary of my groaning ; every night wash I my bed : and water my couch with my tears.

7 My beauty is gone for very trouble : and worn away because of all mine enemies.

8 Away from me, all ye that work vanity : for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

9 The Lord hath heard my petition : the Lord will receive my prayer.

10 All mine enemies shall be confounded, and sore vexed : they shall be turned back, and put to shame suddenly.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PSALM xxxii.

1 Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven : and whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth no sin : and in whose spirit there is no guile.

3 For while I held my tongue : my bones consumed away through my daily complaining.

4 For Thy hand is heavy upon me day and night : and my moisture is like the drought in summer.

5 I will acknowledge my sin unto Thee : and mine unrighteousness have I not hid.

6 I said, I will confess my sins unto the Lord : and so Thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin.

7 For this shall every one that is godly make his prayer unto Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found : but in the great water-floods they shall not come nigh him.

8 Thou art a place to hide me in, Thou shalt preserve me from trouble : Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.

9 I will inform thee, and teach thee in the way wherein thou shalt go : and I will guide thee with Mine eye.

10 Be ye not like to horse and mule, which have no understanding : whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle, lest they fall upon thee.

11 Great plagues remain for the ungodly : but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord, mercy embraceth him on every side.

12 Be glad, O ye righteous, and rejoice in the Lord : and be joyful, all ye that are true of heart.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PSALM xxxviii.

1 PUT me not to rebuke, O Lord, in Thine anger : neither chasten me in Thy heavy displeasure.

2 For Thine arrows stick fast in me : and Thy hand presseth me sore.

3 There is no health in my flesh, because of Thy displeasure : neither is there any rest in my bones, by reason of my sin.

4 For my wickednesses are gone over my head : and are like a sore burden, too heavy for me to bear.

5 My wounds stink, and are corrupt : through my foolishness.

6 I am brought into so great trouble and misery : that I go mourning all the day long.

7 For my loins are filled with a sore disease : and there is no whole part in my body.

8 I am feeble and sore smitten : I have roared for the very disquietness of my heart.

9 Lord, Thou knowest all my desire : and my groaning is not hid from Thee.

10 My heart panteth, my strength hath failed me : and the sight of mine eyes is gone from me.

11 My lovers and neighbours did stand looking upon my trouble : and my kinsmen stood afar off.

12 They also that sought after my life laid snares for me : and they that went about to do me evil talked of wickedness, and imagined deceit all the day long.

13 As for me, I was like a deaf man, and heard not : and as one that is dumb, who doth not open his mouth.

14 I became even as a man that heareth not : and in whose mouth are no reproofs.

15 For in Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust : Thou shalt answer for me, O Lord my God.

16 I have required that they, even mine enemies, should not triumph over me : for when my foot slipped, they rejoiced greatly against me.

17 And I, truly, am set in the plague : and my heaviness is ever in my sight.

18 For I will confess my wickedness : and be sorry for my sin.

19 But mine enemies live, and are mighty : and they that hate me wrongfully are many in number.

20 They also that reward evil for good are against me : because I follow the thing that good is.

21 Forsake me not, O Lord my God : be not Thou far from me.

22 Haste Thee to help me : O Lord God of my salvation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PSALM li.

1 HAVE mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness : according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness : and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my faults : and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against Thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight : that Thou mightest be justified in Thy saying, and clear when Thou art judged.

5 Behold, I was shapen in wickedness : and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

6 But lo, Thou requirest truth in the inward parts : and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

7 Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean : Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness : that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice.

9 Turn Thy face from my sins : and put out all my misdeeds.

10 Make me a clean heart, O God : and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from Thy presence : and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

12 O give me the comfort of Thy help again : and stablish me with Thy free Spirit.

13 Then shall I teach Thy ways unto the wicked : and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.

14 Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou that art the God of my health : and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness.

15 Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord : and my mouth shall shew Thy praise.

16 For Thou desirest no sacrifice, else

would I give it Thee : but Thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit : a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise.

18 O be favourable and gracious unto Sion : build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations : then shall they offer young bullocks upon Thine altar.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PSALM cii.

1 HEAR my prayer, O Lord : and let my crying come unto Thee.

2 Hide not Thy face from me in the time of my trouble : incline Thine Ear unto me when I call ; O hear me, and that right soon.

3 For my days are consumed away like smoke : and my bones are burnt up as it were a firebrand.

4 My heart is smitten down, and withered like grass : so that I forget to eat my bread.

5 For the voice of my groaning, my bones will scarce cleave to my flesh.

6 I am become like a pelican in the wilderness : and like an owl that is in the desert.

7 I have watched, and am even as it were a sparrow : that sitteth alone upon the housetop.

8 Mine enemies revile me all the day long : and they that are mad upon me are sworn together against me.

9 For I have eaten ashes as it were bread : and mingled my drink with weeping ;

10 And that because of Thine indignation and wrath : for Thou hast taken me up, and cast me down.

11 My days are gone like a shadow : and I am withered like grass.

12 But Thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever : and Thy remembrance throughout all generations.

13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Sion : for it is time that Thou have mercy upon her, yea, the time is come.

14 And why? Thy servants think upon

her stones : and it pitieth them to see her in the dust.

15 The heathen shall fear Thy Name, O Lord : and all the kings of the earth Thy Majesty ;

16 When the Lord shall build up Sion : and when His glory shall appear ;

17 When He turneth Him unto the prayer of the poor destitute : and despiseth not their desire.

18 This shall be written for those that come after : and the people which shall be born shall praise the Lord.

19 For He hath looked down from His sanctuary : out of the Heavens did the Lord behold the earth ;

20 That He might hear the mournings of such as are in captivity : and deliver the children appointed unto death ;

21 That they may declare the Name of the Lord in Sion : and His worship at Jerusalem ;

22 When the people are gathered together : and the kingdoms also, to serve the Lord.

23 He brought down my strength in my journey : and shortened my days.

24 But I said, O my God, take me not

away in the midst of mine age : as for Thy years, they endure throughout all generations.

25 Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth : and the Heavens are the work of Thy hands.

26 They shall perish, but Thou shalt endure : they all shall wax old as doth a garment ;

27 And as a vesture shalt Thou change them, and they shall be changed : but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail.

28 The children of Thy servants shall continue : and their seed shall stand fast in Thy sight.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PSALM CXXX.

1 Out of the deep have I called unto
Thee, O Lord : Lord, hear my voice.

2 O let Thine ears consider well : the voice
of my complaint.

3 If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to

mark what is done amiss : O Lord, who may abide it ?

4 For there is mercy with Thee : therefore shalt Thou be feared.

5 I look for the Lord ; my soul doth wait for Him : in His word is my trust.

6 My soul fleeth unto the Lord : before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.

7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy : and with Him is plentiful redemption.

8 And He shall redeem Israel : from all his sins.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PSALM cxliii.

1 HEAR my prayer, O Lord, and consider my desire : hearken unto me for Thy truth and righteousness' sake.

2 And enter not into judgment with Thy servant : for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul ;
he hath smitten my life down to the ground :
He hath laid me in the darkness, as the men
that have been long dead.

4 Therefore is my spirit vexed within me :
and my heart within me is desolate.

5 Yet do I remember the time past ; I
muse upon all Thy works : yea, I exercise my-
self in the works of Thy hands.

6 I stretch forth my hands unto Thee : my
soul gaspeth unto Thee as a thirsty land.

7 Hear me, O Lord, and that soon, for my
spirit waxeth faint : hide not Thy face from
me, lest I be like unto them that go down
into the pit.

8 O let me hear Thy loving-kindness be-
times in the morning, for in Thee is my trust :
shew Thou me the way that I should walk in,
for I lift up my soul unto Thee.

9 Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies :
for I flee unto Thee to hide me.

10 Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth
Thee, for Thou art my God : let Thy loving
Spirit lead me forth into the land of right-
eousness.

11 Quicken me, O Lord, for Thy Name's

sake : and for Thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

12 And of Thy goodness slay mine enemies : and destroy all them that vex my soul ; for I am Thy servant.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

PRAYERS ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS.

For one troubled in Mind or in Conscience.

O BLESSED Lord, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comforts ; we beseech Thee, look down in pity and compassion upon this Thy afflicted servant. Thou writest bitter things against *him*, and makest *him* to possess *his* former iniquities ; Thy wrath lieth hard upon *him*, and *his* soul is full of trouble : but, O merciful God, who hast written Thy holy Word for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of Thy holy Scriptures, might have hope ; give *him* a right understanding of *himself*, and of Thy threats and promises ; that *he* may neither cast away *his* confidence in Thee, nor place it anywhere but in Thee. Give *him* strength against all his temptations, and heal all his distempers. Break not the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking flax. Shut not up Thy tender mer-

cies in displeasure ; but make *him* to hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. Deliver *him* from fear of the enemy, and lift up the light of Thy countenance upon *him*, and give *him* peace, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For one Depressed in Spirit.

O MOST gracious and merciful Father, who alone canst heal a wounded spirit, look down with pity on this Thy servant oppressed with misery. Comfort *him* in *his* distress, O blessed Jesus, Thou great Physician of soul and body ; support *him* under all dejections of mind ; strengthen *him* against all vain fears and doubts ; deliver *him* from causeless scruples of conscience, and say unto *his* soul, I am thy salvation. O blessed Spirit, infuse Thy grace into *his* heart ; shed upon him the cheerful beams of Thy divine love, and dispel those dark clouds which have gathered round *him* ; that being restored to a comfortable and hopeful frame of mind, *he* may joyfully serve Thee in all godly quietness ; through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Against Evil Thoughts.

O ALMIGHTY and merciful Father, unto whom all hearts be open, and all desires known; from whom no secrets are hid, and before whom we must one day give account for every idle word and sinful thought; be pleased so to guide, and direct, and govern the heart of this Thy servant, that it may not wander from Thee. Cleanse it from all profane, impure, or revengeful thoughts, and from all other evil imaginations, that neither envy, folly, lust, nor passion may dwell in it, and defile it. Make *him* always to remember that *he* is Thy child, and *his* heart the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and so sanctify *him*, that *he* may perfectly love Thee, and may be without spot presented to Thee at the last. And this we humbly beg for the sake of the meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord. *Amen.*

For one in Unbelief.

O LORD God, the Father of spirits, whom without faith it is impossible to please, cause the bright light of Thy Holy Spirit to shine into the mind of this Thy servant. De-

liver *him* from hardness of heart, and from contempt of Thy Holy Word, and do Thou so bless that Word to *his* soul, that it may become effectual to *his* salvation. Give *him* grace to submit *his* understanding and will to Thine. Let Thy promises of mercy and love melt *his* stony heart, and let Thy dreadful threatenings against sinners lead *him* to forsake sin before it be too late. Give us all grace to hear meekly Thy Word, to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit in our life and conversation, that we may escape the doom of unbelievers, and be received hereafter as Thy faithful servants, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

For an Impenitent Person.

O ALMIGHTY God, who wouldest not the death of a sinner, and hast established in Jesus Christ the covenant of repentance, promising Thy pardon to all them that confess their sins, and forsake them ; let Thy merciful ears be open to our supplications on behalf of this Thy servant, who steeleth *his* heart against Thee in a dangerous impenitence. Take from *him* the heart of stone, and give

him an heart of flesh, and kindle in *his* breast a godly sorrow for *his* past offences against Thee. Grant *him* time and grace to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and restore *him* to the blessed hope of everlasting life. Have pity on *him*, who will not have pity on *himself*, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

For one about to make his Will.

O LORD, who by the mouth of Thy prophet didst command Hezekiah to set his house in order, grant the spirit of judgment and of a sound mind to this Thy servant, who desires to arrange and settle *his* worldly affairs, that *he* may be the better able to attend to heavenly things without distraction. Enable *him* wisely and righteously to dispose of whatsoever it has pleased Thee to entrust to *him*, and when Thou art pleased to call *him* to Thyself, may *he* devoutly commend *his* soul into the hands of *his* heavenly Father, and be received into an everlasting habitation, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. *Amen.*

For one Deranged.

O GRACIOUS Lord, who wilt judge all mankind according to the talents which Thou hast entrusted to them, look down from

Thy heavenly throne in mercy upon this Thy servant, whose mind is (sometimes) darkened by clouds of error. Keep *him* under the protection of Thy good providence, that *he* may not fall into any evil or mischief; impute not to *him* any offences which may spring from *his* disordered faculties, and in Thine own good time restore to *him* the clear use of *his* reason, that *he* may glorify Thy Name, and may lead the remainder of *his* life in Thy faith and fear, who livest and reignest, One God in Three Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

For one confined to his Bed.

O LORD God of all comfort, our strength and stay in the needful time of trouble, look with an eye of pity upon this Thy servant, on whom Thou seemest to have passed sentence that *he* shall no more come down from this bed on which *he* is gone up. O do Thou sweeten this confinement to *him*. Support *his* spirits when they are ready to droop; refresh *his* mind, when it is troubled and uneasy, and make all *his* bed in *his* sickness, giving sleep to *his* eyes, and slumber to *his* eyelids. Grant that *he* may be strengthened

by the prayers of the faithful, who enjoy the privilege of meeting in Thy house ; send Thy good Spirit to be *his* Comforter ; and give *him* grace so to take Thy visitation, that it may turn to *his* endless joy and happiness ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For an Aged and Infirm Person.

O LORD God, who hast made the days of man as a span long, and *his* age even as nothing in respect of Thee ; forgive, we pray Thee, this Thy servant all the manifold transgressions which in the long course of many years *he* hath committed against Thee ; and enable *him* to spend what yet remaineth of *his* life in Thy fear, and to Thy glory. Accept *his* prayers and services, weak and imperfect though they be. Give *him* grace so to number *his* days that *he* may apply *his* heart unto wisdom. Let *his* loins be girded about, and *his* light burning, that *he* may be ready for Thy coming, O Lord, at whatever hour it shall please Thee to call *him*. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our Saviour. *Amen.*

For one about to submit to an Operation.

O MOST powerful and gracious Lord God, who dwellest in heaven, but beholdest all things below ; look down, we pray Thee, upon this Thy servant, who in *his* great distress cries unto Thee for help. *He* confesses that when *he* has been safe, and all things have been quiet about *him*, *he* has forgotten Thee, *his* God, and has gone astray from Thy commandments. But now *he* sees how terrible Thou art, and implores Thy mercy, that, being delivered from this distress, *he* may live to serve Thee, and to glorify Thy Name. Hear, Lord, and save *him* for the infinite merits of Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For an Insensible Person.

O LORD Jesu Christ, who, for the faith and at the prayer of his friends, didst restore the sick of the palsy ; even so reject not, but graciously receive, our prayers for this our *brother*, here lying insensible under Thy chastening hand, and dispel the clouds of darkness which obscure *his* mind, and make *him*

a companion for the dead. But if it be Thy will to remove *him* hence in the state of insensibility, pardon, we beseech Thee, all *his* offences, and accept *his* former preparation and repentance. Receive *him* into the arms of Thy mercy, that this short night of sorrow may be turned into everlasting day, through Thy merits, O blessed Jesu, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, art one God world without end. *Amen.*

For a Sick Woman with Child.

O ALMIGHTY God, the Helper of all that put their trust in Thee, look down upon this woman Thy servant, whom Thou hast afflicted with weakness upon weakness, having added to childbearing the burden of grievous sickness. Let Thy strength be made perfect in her weakness, and as pains and sorrows take hold upon her, inspire her with fresh courage to rely upon Thee. Grant that she may patiently and cheerfully wait till the days are accomplished that she should be delivered, and then shorten her pains, and make her the joyful mother of a healthy child, which may be an instrument of Thy glory here, and, together

with herself, a blessed inhabitant of Thy heavenly kingdom hereafter, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

For one in Want of Sleep.

O GRACIOUS Lord, hear our prayers on behalf of this Thy servant, whose eyes Thou holdest waking, so that in the night-season *he* takes no rest. *He* looks up to Thee, seeking sleep to ease *his* pains, and refresh *his* weakness, but finds it not. O merciful God, let it not always fly from *him*, but let *his* wearied eyes at length sink in slumber, and do Thou make *his* sleep sweet unto *him*. But if Thou delayest to bestow the blessing of rest upon *his* body, let *his* soul refresh itself in the bosom of Thy love; let *him* remember Thee upon *his* bed, and meditate upon Thee in the night-watches, and let the thought of Thy tender mercies be *his* comfort, till Thou dost see fit to relieve *him*; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For one troubled with Constant Sleep.

O MERCIFUL God, let not this deep sleep, which has fallen upon this Thy servant, prove to *him* the sleep of death. Make it the

sleep of one who is recovering, to relieve and refresh him, and do Thou awaken *him* from it in Thine own good time, that *he* may praise Thy holy Name. But if Thou hast decreed thereby to take *him* to Thyself, O Lord, remember and accept *his* former prayers and repentance. Wash away *his* sins with the Blood of Jesus, and when *he* awakes in the next world, let *him* find himself surrounded with the light of Thy glory. Hear these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVINGS.

For release from Trouble of Mind.

O MERCIFUL Lord, who hast caused the light to shine out of darkness, and hast graciously spoken peace to the soul of this Thy servant; blessed be Thy holy Name for so great a mercy and consolation. Continue, we pray Thee, Thy loving-kindness towards *him*, that *he* may never more be harassed by undue doubts and fears. Let *him* not waver in *his* faith and confidence in Thy love, nor be unstable in *his* resolution of serving Thee with all *his* heart, but establish *him* by Thy Holy Spirit in the blessings and comforts of love, and joy, and peace, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

For the Beginning of Recovery.

O MERCIFUL Lord God, who bringest down to the grave, and bringest up; we bless Thy holy Name for turning our heaviness into joy by restoring this our *brother* to some degree of *his* former health, and giving

us a good hope of *his* recovery. Blessed be Thou, who didst not forsake *him* in time of need, but in answer to our prayers hast sent *him* such seasonable relief. Continue, we pray Thee, Thy mercy towards *him*. Prosper the means used for *his* cure, and in Thine own good time restore *him* to health, that *he* may go up with gladness to Thine house of prayer, to return Thee hearty thanks for all Thy goodness towards *him* ; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

For the Recovery of a Sick Child.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we offer Thee our grateful thanks for having restored this child in answer to our prayers. Let Thy Fatherly hand, we beseech Thee, ever be over *him*, let Thy Holy Spirit ever be with *him* ; daily increase in *him* Thy manifold gifts of grace ; and so lead *him* in the knowledge and obedience of Thy Word, that in the end *he* may obtain everlasting life ; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who, with Thee and

the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

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O ALMIGHTY God, we give Thee humble thanks, for that Thou hast been graciously pleased to preserve, through the great pain and peril of childbirth, this Thy servant who desires to offer up her praises and thanksgivings unto Thee. Preserve her, O Lord, and the infant whom she has brought forth ; guard her by Thy holy angels from all evil, and give her a speedy recovery to health and strength both of body and soul. Grant also that like as our blessed Saviour was carried as a Child into the Temple by His Mother, so this Thy servant may in due time offer her infant unto Thee, to be made Thine own child by Baptism, and may give thanks unto Thee for all Thy mercies in Thy holy Church ; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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